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"ABERDEEN JOURNAL"

NOTES AND QUERIES

v. 3

Vol. III.

1910

"ABERDEEN DAILY JOURNAL" OFFICE

1910

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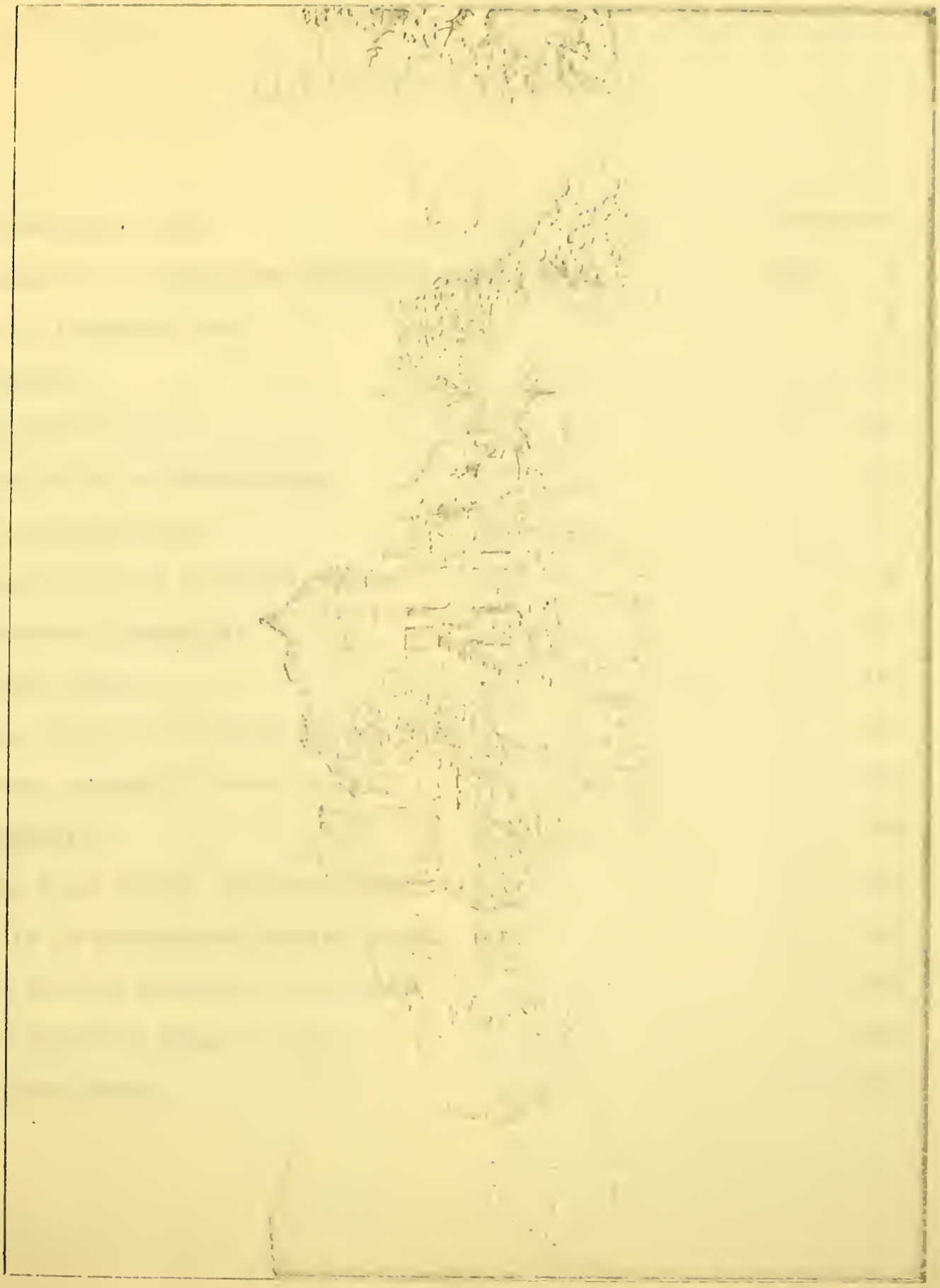

Kildrummy Castle.

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"ABERDEEN JOURNAL"

NOTES AND QUERIES.

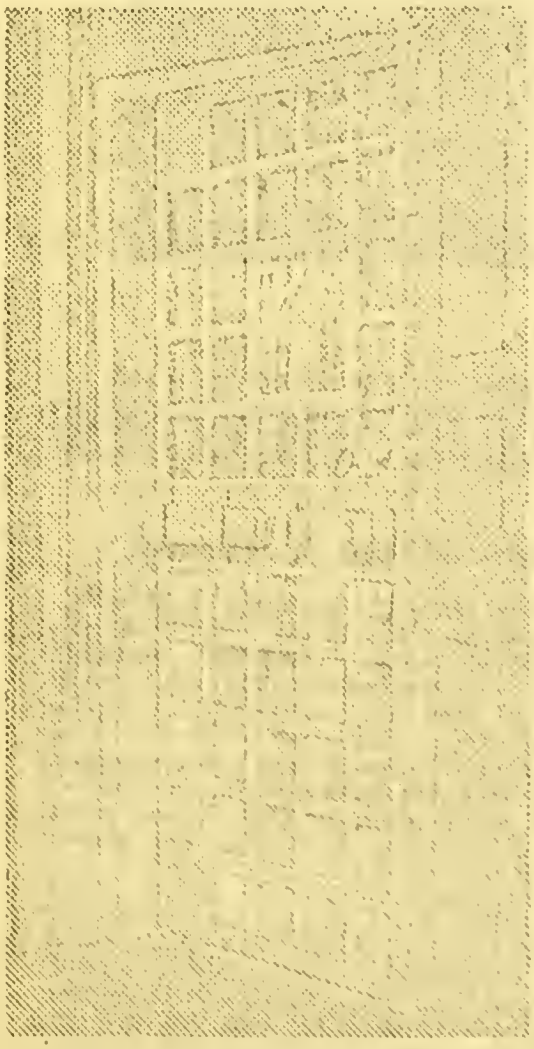
(Reprinted from the "Aberdeen Weekly Journal.")

VOL. III. 1910.

No. 90.—January 5, 1910.

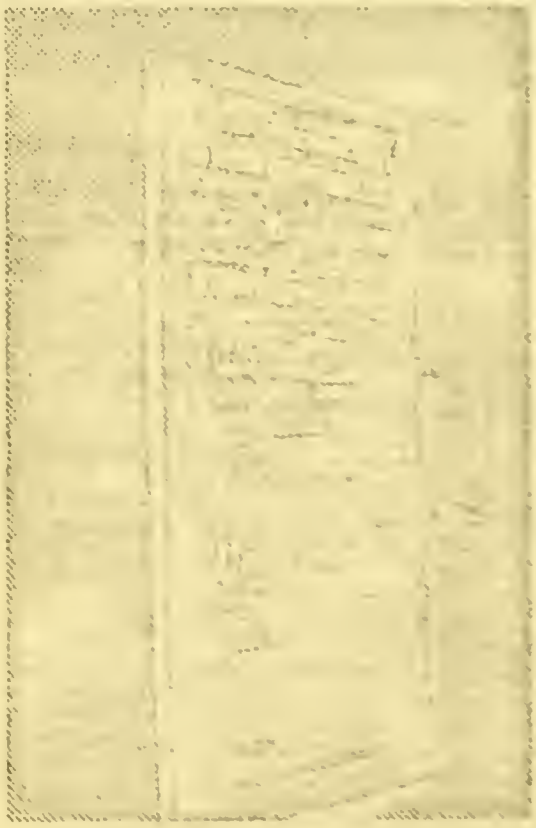
THE OLD TOLBOOTH OF ABERDEEN.

We reproduce a series of interesting pictures of the interior of the Tolbooth Tower, which is at present undergoing repair.



THE ENTRANCE GATE.

This is the entrance gate to the Tolbooth. It is in a corner of the corridor of the County Buildings, protected by an outside modern door of wood. On the slab over the gateway is the inscription—"Notice. Any person detected conveying liquor into this gaol will be severely punished." The dome-shaped panel over the lock is the aperture for the admission of food. A dark, narrow spiral stairway leads to the cells overhead.



A CELL DOOR.

The door of a cell opening right off the spiral stair. It is composed of layers of oak 3in. thick, banded on the face with rough strips of iron, and further strengthened by iron chains. The padlocks on the outside are a foot square

(Express flashlight photo

"IN A DUNGEON CELL."

This is the interior of a vault-shaped cell, about 10ft. high and 15ft. square. To the iron bar on the floor prisoners were gyved; while at intervals round the walls are heavy iron chains to which others were manacled. Originally two narrow slits in the masonry, on opposite sides of the wall, served for windows. Gloomy and insanitary indeed the dungeon must have been.

"Records of Old Aberdeen."

The New Spalding Club has issued a new volume—Volume II. of the "Records of Old Aberdeen, 1498-1903," edited by Mr A. M. Munro, the City Chamberlain. The first volume, published ten years ago, dealt principally with the civic history of the old town, its charters and the references to it in Acts of Parliament, extracts from the minutes of the Town Council, and accounts of the Merchant Society and trade incorporations. In the present volume, the extracts printed have been taken mainly from records dealing with the ecclesiastical side of affairs—the minutes of the Kirk Session, extending from 1671 to 1795; the Session accounts, from 1659 onwards; and the minutes of the Heritors and Kirk Session dealing with the poor. A continuation of Bower's list of the Bishops of Aberdeen is given down to the abolition of Episcopacy at the Revolution of 1688; and we have a similar account of the various incumbents of the Cathedral both in the first and second charges, from 1599 down to the present date. Then we are furnished with all the epitaphs and inscriptions in the Cathedral and transepts so far as visible and legible, and with a selection of those in the churchyard; and the volume ends with descriptions of Old Aberdeen, the Cathedral, the Chantry, St Peter's Hospital, the Snow Church, and Bishop Dunbar's Hospital.

It was the original intention to preface the volume with a history of Old Aberdeen based on Orem's well-known work, and supplemented by the additional information made available in these two volumes of "Records." The carrying out of the scheme, however, presented considerable difficulties, and it has been thought best to let the extracts speak for themselves. There is matter for regret in this, for a thorough and complete History of Old Aberdeen is much needed; but in the meantime we may well be content with Mr Munro's two volumes, the second of which, like the first, gives every indication of painstaking industry and careful editing. This second or ecclesiastical volume is full of very interesting material. Mr Munro says that, in making the selection of extracts from the Kirk Session minutes, his endeavour has been to choose entries "which tend to throw light on the habits of the people, their mode of living, the survival of ancient customs and superstitions, and the events of national history as they affected the community of the Auld

tion." In the early years of the period dealt with, the people were under a severe and rigorous ecclesiastical rule, the Church exercising great powers and enforcing them by sundry fines and penalties; and yet, withal, there seems to have been extraordinary laxity, neglect, and even defiance of ecclesiastical injunctions. The salmon fishers on the Dee and Don would persist in breaking the Sabbath, Sunday golfing was indulged in, and non-churchgoing and other "neglect of the ordinances" seem to have been conspicuous even in days when intimation was made that

"Non upon the Lords day efter divyne worshape vage their owen houses upon qt.soever pretext saife it be ane work of cheritie or necessite bot stay at hombe in ther owen housis and pray confere and sing psalmes and meditat and so santifie the sabbath. . . .

"All begin agayne ther famelie worship and the paroch to be visitit and all on ther oathes to be examinit if they have ther morning and evning prayers who hes 'them not ther names to be red out of pulpit and mack their repentance."

NON-CHURCHGOING AND OTHER OFFENCES.

Mr Munro, in his Introduction, pithily summarises some of the general features disclosed in the minutes—

"A large number of the entries deal with the difficulty experienced by the session in obtaining regular attendance at public worship, and in particular with those who are described as 'common outlyers' from public ordinances. The elder taking the collection at the church door was often commissioned to keep a strict outlook and note the attendance or non-attendance of particular parties and report to the session. But if non-attendance was a fault, there were other offences of as heinous a character in the eyes of the session committed by those who did attend. An early minute deals with those who left the church before the blessing was pronounced, and this custom seems to have been continued, as intimation is made against the practice more than once. Having passed the watchful elder at the door, some when the service was commenced came out and lay about the churchyard or 'vaiged' the streets, while a threat of being summoned before the session was made in 1650 against those who 'mack a custome of sleeping and does not amend.' Among those who remained in church the best behaviour was not sometimes maintained, for more than one minute deals with the presence of dogs, walking about during service, and many other acts which the session in one minute designs as conduct neither Christian nor sober in the house of God.

"The punishments invoked by the session, in addition to imposing fines, were imprisonment by calling in the civil power, the branks, the goves, the garment of sackcloth, and the penitential stool. Sometimes the ordinary forms of punishment were not considered sufficient to purge the defaulter of his sin, and reference may be made to the dreadful oath of purgation required in some cases before the innocence of the suspected person could be held to be fully established. A form of this oath of purgation is given in the case of Andrew Bartlat in 1701."

THE OATH OF PURGATION.

This oath is really a "dreadfut" one, as Mr Munro terms it; and its nature may be judged from the following passages—

"I do in the presence of the Great and Dreadful Majesty of the Eternall Everliving and Everblessed God the searcher of hearts, In the presence of his holly Angells and of you his people assembled in his Sanctuary, Humbly upon my knees with my Hand lifted up to Heav'n protest and swear by the holly and dreadful name of the Lord Jehovah the only true God, and as I shall be answerable unto his Majestie in that Great and terrible day wherein he shall Judge the world by Jesus Christ the Mediatour, whom he hath appointed the Judge of Quick and Dead, that I never committed the said abominable sin . . . . And this oath I make in the presence of the all seeing Sin revenging God as said is, with a clear and innocent Conscience, In Righteousness Truth and Judgement, without all equivocation or mentall Reservation, That is to say, without all deceitfull meaning, concealing of, or dissembling in any part of the truth of the matter. And I take God to record upon my Soule of my truth and sincerity herein, whom I know to be a swift wittness against him that swareth falsly by his name and who hath threatned that his curse shall enter into the House of such ane one and consume it with the timber theroff and the stones theroff and who hath brought on very Terrible and Dreadful Judgements ev'n in this lyfe upon such makeing there Hands qch they had lifted up to swear falsly by his name to Rott and the lyke and who will bring furth his Everlasting Curse upon me if I be guilty in this matter wishing the Lord may no otherwyse help me in my greatest need nor prosper me in anything I have to doe, but examplarly punish me in this life and pursue me with the everlasting fyre of his wrath here and hereafter If I be not free and innocent in this matter Amen."

THE CARE OF THE POOR.

Attention is also directed in the Introduction to the part played by the Kirk Session in providing education within the parish, in the care of the poor and the distribution of charity, and in the affording of relief to persons outside the parish in cases of distress or unexpected calamity.

"The care of the poor" (says Mr Munro) "under statute was committed to the session from 1597 to 1692, and they alone during this period intromitted with the funds set aside for the poor, and framed regulations for their relief, besides taking measures for the repression of stranger beggars. By proclamation of William and Mary in 1692, afterwards confirmed by the Act of 1695, the duty devolved on the session and the heritors jointly. No great

change appears to have taken place in the parish of Oldmachar as the result of the new order of things, except that a minute of 28th August, 1687, foreshadows the change by a recommendation that the town, college bounds, and the heritors, should maintain the poor and indigent persons within their several precincts with the help of the quarterly collections at the church, and these proposals seem to have received the assent of the parties concerned. This arrangement was confirmed in 1693 and appears to have worked without much trouble till 1751, when it was deemed necessary to put the Act in force, and levy a rate for the maintenance of the poor in place of the voluntary contributions hitherto made by the heritors. A stent roll was prepared, and by order of a meeting of heritors and the session, a tax was, in terms of the statute, imposed for the first time. This proceeding was strongly opposed by a considerable number of the heritors on various grounds as unnecessary, and actions to compel payment of the assessment were raised before the Sheriff, who granted decree in favour of the collector. The memorial and proposals given in by the objecting heritors to the meeting of 4th February, 1752, is a very interesting document, and clearly sets forth the abuses that had crept into the administration of relief to the poor, and the proposals for remedying these in the future."

The quotations given will serve to show how much of interest there is in this valuable volume of "Records."

The Loch Collection of Old Scottish Documents.

Readers may be interested to know of the existence of this collection—the Scottish characteristic result of business method combined with the love of antiquarian lore prevailing through generations of one family; the work of centuries, begun, judging from documents preserved, as far back as Mary Stuart, and ending with the period of Gladstone. The family is lost to modern Scotland, though the earliest trace of it is found in the Charters of Dunfermline during the reign of Alexander II., A.D. 1231, wherein is a grant of land made to Philip and Gilbert de Loch; and through its different vicissitudes we find at least one member occupying a prominent position in the affairs of Edinburgh. In 1564, a grant of land close to the Market Cross in Edinburgh was made by Queen Mary and her husband Henry to Archibald Loch. Six years later, David Loch forms the subject of treatment vastly different—"he being hung by the Regent Murray in the raid on Brechin Castle." Following the family in its prominence, we find James Loch Town Treasurer of Edinburgh in 1632-3, busy in the raising of funds for the "receptyeun banquet," etc., of Charles I., "wherein he was ordeyned in the most magnifik and solemne manner." This required some 35,000 marks, which amount was subscribed jointly by Jn Macnacht, Alexander Clark, Patrick Elcis, and Robert Carnegie.

This period of the collection, containing the private papers of the Treasurer, abounds in interest, which, in a brief review, it is impossible to dwell upon. The Jacobean letters to the Stuarts of Appin, commencing in 1715 and continuing to just before Culloden, form in themselves an intensely interesting and valuable sequence, which receives the finishing touch by the Earl of Mar in 1824 on the restoration of his title. At this point one is inclined to seek further enlightenment, as "Burke" gives the Earl of Mar as joining William of Orange. The question one would ask is, When did he? The "Call to Arms" before me addressed to Appin, dated 1715, is signed both by "James" and "Mar": but why was it that, if he went over, the title was not restored until 1824? That great and honoured house could no doubt supply the cause for this seeming variance. In 1748 we find a family connection created by James Loch of Drylaw marrying Frances, daughter of Hon. William Erskine, brother of David, 4th Earl of Buchan; and at this point there comes in the Jacobean sequence—a very charming specimen of a schoolboy's literary composition, in the form of a letter to his aunt Frances, who, to gratify her nephew John's sporting proclivities and Tory ambition, has lent him her "rooster" for school use, which he returns "with a bell around his neck—a badge of victory, he having killed five, the battle of which proved to be the biggest Whigs' cock in the school."

The Appin documents sought refuge abroad at the flight after Culloden, and it was not until some thirty years after that they found their way secretly to Scotland, addressed to "Anne Stuart, spouse of David Loch, merchant in Leith." This connection recently discovered is, I think, of assistance to the "Jacobite Peerage," and, moreover, affords interesting light on Charles Stewart of Ardsoile's escape from Holland. His Grace of Argyll, in His "Adventures in Legend," gives Ardsoile as being sought and found in an inn at one of the principal Dutch ports by a merchant from Leith eager for his escape from that country. To effect this, the merchant is told by the innkeeper to feign sickness, which he does, whilst the innkeeper sends for the merchant's wife, instructing her to bring two suits of her clothes. On her arrival, Ardsoile is made to dress in one of these and to take the place of the lady's serving maid beside her in the coach, wherein she drives to secure a doctor for her husband. By these means, they are enabled to cross to French territory and so reach safety. The possibility presents David Loch as being the Leith merchant, and the fact of Anne Stuart, or Stewart—the name being spelt both ways on the enclosures addressed to her—being his wife establishes this connection, and is also accountable for the interest taken by them. The fact that Ardsoile was a very big man but is able to don the apparel of the lady leads one to believe that there must have existed somewhat of a family uniformity in size. Previous to this, and whilst

Ardseile was in Scotland, he once visited Edinburgh in disguise, and it was no doubt at a coffee-house that he heard the strange question and warning from the friend spoken of in this same account. The mention of coffee-houses and the fact that Edinburgh's famous coffee-house, "John's," was founded by one John Loche, gives foundation to the idea that a bold man of Ardseile's nature would venture to such a place—trusting to his disguise—in the hope of gaining information.

At a later period, we find the departure south of the head of the Loch family, James, who studied law in Edinburgh within that extraordinary circle of young men, the Broughams, Horner, Jeffrey, the Claphane brothers. These are dealt with in the volumes of recent private issue entitled "Brougham and His Early Friends, Letters Written to James Loch." It was this James Loch who, in 1800, went to London to study English law in the office of his uncle, William Adam of Blair Adam, whose duel with Charles James Fox was at the time the topic of much amusing comment. The collection at this period presents further variety, inasmuch as it becomes the recipient of the different workings of the Whig hotbed. James Loch, designated "The Economist," becomes M.P. for the Northern Burghs, and factor to the Sutherland estates. In connection with his constituents—bundles of correspondence from whom are preserved—the majority were not by any means backward in their applications and demands upon the good nature of their member. The estates of Sutherland at this time underwent vast improvements, and in these we find James Loch in bad odour with the crofters. The record preserved of his connection with them is of varied interest, containing many bundles of the ducal family's private political correspondence, besides his own antiquarian notes on that country.

It may be of further interest to mention the manner in which this exceptional accumulation was brought to light. The Loch family having removed south at the beginning of the 19th century, and the collection being the property of the head of the family—the regrettable demise of the last of whom happened some twelve months ago—he, on the death of his father, sought the compactness of the modern residential flat. Consequently, everything pertaining to lumber could not be considered, and it was by the merest chance that several old boxes containing this preservation of centuries was saved by the timely aid of his friend, Mr H. B. Woodcock, acting as his estate agent, who found room in his office basement for the whole collection, which remained there for some three years before an excusable curiosity sought permission to inquire into its contents, the result being their purchase.

In this communication I have barely been able to give an idea of the importance and vastness of the collection; but it is in the hope that I may succeed in moving those schooled in "antiquarian times" to an extent sufficient to enable a record to be made and printed before its probable distribution. The authorities in Edinburgh, owing to their limited space, have had to return a reluctant refusal of the offer of a loan exhibition. I am happy to mention, however, that, by the kindness of Dr A. H. Millar the cases of the Albert Institute, Dundee, have been willingly offered as far as their space will admit.

This collection is the property of Messrs Darling and Pead, 32 Harrington Road, South Kensington, London; and any further particulars will, on application to this address, be willingly supplied by

G. A. Jackson.

A Historic Aberdeen Bell.

OLD "LOWRIE"

There has just been re-cast at the foundry of Messrs John Blaikie and Sons, Aberdeen, a fine full-toned bell with a somewhat remarkable history. The bell was originally cast in 1351 and named Laurence; it was renewed and re-erected in 1634; it was broken in 1874, when the church and spire of St Nicholas were burnt down. The fragments of broken metal were then collected and stored; and now the bell has been re-cast for the Episcopal Church of St Devenick, near Aberdeen. The new bell is a really fine specimen of the bell-founder's art, and weighs—exclusive of the 10-lb. tongue of soft iron—275 lb.; the total weight being over 2 cwt. Graceful in form, the bell, in addition to its other attractions, has a good well-proportioned and symmetrical "crown" head—so useful and advantageous in fixing the bell to the oaken beam from which it hangs. The "strike" note is a full, mellow A, and the bell is approximately in tune with itself. It is hung by the "lever" system. The bell—which has been gifted by an anonymous donor who is much interested in St Devenick's—is meant as a Christmas gift to the congregation. The inscription, running round the outside of the bell and quite close to the crown, reads:—

SOLI DEO GLORIA . 1351 LAURENTIO NOMINE FACTAM: 1634 REPARTAM: 1874 ECCL. S NICOLAI ABERD. USTO FRACTAM. BLAIKIE ME REFECIT ECCL. S. DEVINICI DE BIELDSIDE NAT. DOM. 1909.

Discovery of Stone Cists at Lothianburn.

An interesting discovery of three full-length stone cists was made at Lothianburn golf course on Thursday last. The golf course is situated at the north-east extremity of the Pentland

Hills, and a new clubhouse is at present being erected on a site adjoining the public road, on the eastern boundary of the course. The cists, which were discovered while the workmen were excavating for the foundations of the new clubhouse, have been carefully examined by Mr Fred. R. Coles, Assistant Keeper of the National Museum of Antiquities, and the following description has been communicated by Mr J. Inch Morrison, architect to the club:—The three full-length cists are of the type known as belonging to the Early Christian Period. This type is distinguished from the still earlier forms by having the body laid either on the side or on the back at full length, in a grave the sides and ends of which are composed of numerous thin slabs, the whole interment being covered with similar slabs, all smallish, and frequently placed with no attempt at accuracy or neatness. The Lothianburn cists lay nearly parallel to each other, and occupied a space of ground about 13 feet wide north to south, and about 8 feet in length in the direction in which the bodies lay, which was almost due east and west. The coverstones were within 14 inches of the surface of the ground. In the northern cist the body had been placed on its right side: in the middle cist it was lying on its back—the heads in both cases being at the west end. The northern cist measured internally about 6 feet by 1 foot 4 inches, and was about 15 inches in depth. The middle cist measured rather less than 6 feet in length, about 2 feet 3 inches in width at the east end, and 1 foot 8 inches at the west end; in depth, about 15 inches, like the other cist. It had been covered by at least four slabs of a laminated grey-greenish freestone, irregular in form and size. The sides of all the cists were constructed of the same kind of freestone, which seems not to be found in the immediate vicinity. Of the third cist, which lay to the south of the middle one about 7 feet, it is impossible to say anything definite as the greater part of it (and any remains as well) had been broken up before these notes were made. The skull, which lay at the west end of the middle cist, was in perfect condition, each jaw showing a remarkably fine set of teeth. All the cists were full to the brim of earth, which had silted in, and about twelve inches depth of this soil had accumulated over the deposits. Interments of this type do not usually contain any relics placed beside the bodies; but in the event of future discoveries it is well to be aware of the importance of sifting all the soil found in a cist, for it is only by the associated relics that a true estimate of the period of the interment can be formed. It is also of extreme importance that on the first discovery of stones assumed to be those of a cist immediate notice should be sent to the National Museum of Antiquities in order that expert examination may forthwith be made. Small cemeteries containing burials of the above nature have been recorded from various localities in Scotland; one of the most recent was found at Leuchars.—"Scotsman," 6th December, 1909.

Romance in Surnames.

An interesting special report on surnames in Ireland, issued by the Registrar-General for that country, points out how much light is thrown by family nomenclature on the early employments and customs of a people, as well as of the sources from which they spring. It appears from the table of surnames, that the five most common names in Ireland as compared with England and Scotland are:—

Ireland.	England.	Scotland.
Murphy.	Smith.	Smith.
Kelly.	Jones.	McDonald.
Sullivan.	Williams.	Brown.
Walsh.	Taylor.	Thomson.
Smith.	Davies.	Robertson.

Although the great army of the Smiths is shown to predominate in England and Scotland and almost in Ireland, it is pointed out that all Smiths do not belong to the one family. The name is derived from the most common and important of all early trades, and in Ireland and Scotland the name in many, if not most, cases is a translation from the Gaelic equivalent.

Varied Record.

The following is a diary of John Hunter, collier in Ayrshire:—On Monday, 9th ult., his father died; Tuesday, his daughter was married; Wednesday, he buried his father; Thursday, he courted Jane Galbreath, in Dalmellington parish; Friday, he obtained her consent for marriage; Saturday, they were locked; Sunday, they were proclaimed in the different churches; and on Monday they were married in the presence of a numerous company.—"Aberdeen Journal," 6th January, 1794.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1831.

10th January. At Mill of Ardo, Methlick, Mr James Smith, late Surgeon at Old Deer.

29th January. At Banff, William Robinson, Esq., in his 60th year.

9th February. At Kilbarlity, on Thursday last, Mr Donald Fraser, Parochial Schoolmaster, aged 89. Mr Fraser was a genuine Dominie of the old school, and had swayed the birch in Kilbarlity for nearly 70 years. He married at the early age of 18, and besides a numerous race of children, grand-children, and great-grand-children, his partner (who was united to the deceased when only 15) still survives to lament his loss. After sharing for the long period of 71 years the joys and sorrows of her late husband, the aged widow very naturally desires that she should soon sleep with him at the foot of the hill, after their long earthly pilgrimage.

3rd February. At Bath, in his 85th year, Rev. William Traill, LL.D., Chancellor of the Diocese of Down and Connor, who from 1766 to 1779 was Professor of Mathematics in Marischal College, Aberdeen.

9th February. At Manse of Boyndie, Alexander Joass, A.M., aged 75, who had been Parochial Schoolmaster there upwards of half a century.

8th March. At Glenbogie, Alexander Lumsden, Esq., late of Edinburgh, Advocate, aged 62.

1st March. Here, William Dingwall Fordyce, Esq. of Techmuiry, in his 55th year.

14th March. Aged 84, Mrs Katherine Leslie of Glassel, relict of William Young, Esq. of Sheddocksley.

30th March. At her house in Edinburgh, Miss Margaret Keith Abercromby, daughter of the late General Abercromby of Glassaugh.

30th March. At Manse of Belhelvie, Miss Forsyth.

31st March. At Delavorar, Captain Charles M'Gregor, aged 51.

15th April. Here, Miss Barbara Innes, daughter of the late Alexander Innes, Esq. of Clerkseat.

23rd April. At London, by a fall from his horse, William, eldest son of the late Rev. Abercromby Gordon, Minister of Banff.

25th April. At Stonehaven, in her 63rd year, Penuel Richardson, spouse to John Low, Esq. of Hilton.

26th April. Ann Fraser, spouse to John Duffus, Engineer, Footdee, aged 53.

22nd April. At Manse of Forglen, Rev. Laurence Moyes, Minister of that parish, in his 63rd year. [This death is afterwards announced as having occurred on 2nd May.]

10th April. At Forres, aged 60, Mrs Janet Reid, widow of Rev. John Hoyes, Minister of Kinloss.

11th May. At Tochieneal, Alexander Wilson, Esq., late factor for the Earl of Seafield, aged 56.

24th April. In his 83rd year, James Laing, Esq. of Streatham, Surrey, of Haddo, Aberdeenshire, and late of the Island of Dominica, West Indies.

25th May. At her son's house, Chapel Street here, Mrs Margaret Nisbet, relict of Rev. David Waddel, late of Shiels, Belhelvie.

8th June. Elizabeth, relict of Adam Urquhart, Esq. of Byth, in her 90th year.

8th June. In her 76th year, Annabella, eldest daughter of John Stewart, Esq., late Professor of Mathematics, Marischal College, and relict of Captain John Leith of Barrack.

19th June. At Broomhill, Aberdeen, Robert Harvey, Esq. of Broomhill, M.D.

26th May. At Midelova, parish of Kildrummy, James Ronald, in the 100th year of his age. He was the only person in the district who had a distinct recollection of the years 1745 and 1746, and often mentioned having seen Glenbucket marching his regiment in spring, 1746, past the School of Auchindoir, on their route to the fatal battle of Culloden.

21st June. Margaret Milne—better known as "Methodist Meg"—was found dead in her house at Pitachieside.

10th July. At Woodhill, Mrs Hogarth.

4th July. At the Manse, New Deer, Rev. Hugh Taylor, in his 85th year.

15th July. At Arthurseat, in her 84th year, Mrs Janet Morison, daughter of the late Provost Morison of Elsick, and spouse of Dr Arthur Dingwall Fordyce of Culsh.

15th July. Mrs Duncan, widow of Professor Duncan, of King's College.

16th July. At Breda, in his 79th year, Andrew Farquharson, Esq. of Breda.

18th July. At Forglen House, Sir George Abercromby, Bart. of Birkenbog and Forglen, in his 81st year.

25th July. At Aden, Alexander Russell, Esq. of Monceoffer.

31st July. At Peterhead, Barbara Hutchison, relict of Thomas Ferguson, Esq., W.S., Edinburgh.

7th September. At Manse of Birse, Rev. Joseph Smith, Minister of that parish, in his 82nd year.

21st October. At Banff Castle, Sir Robert Taring of Foveran, Bart. [aged 85].

22nd October. David Gordon, Esq. of Dulwich Hill, Surrey, and of Abergeldie, Aberdeenshire, aged 79.

26th October. At Glasgow, Ann, wife of William Shand, Esq. of Craigellie.

9th November. At Aberdeen, Mrs Gordon of Craignile, in her 81st year.

12th December. At London, Rev. Skene Ogilvy, D.D., late Minister of Old Machar, in his 77th year.

10th December. Rev. John Bryce, Minister of the South Parish of Aberdeen, in his 77th year.

21st December. At Manse of Ellon, Rev. Robert Douglass, in his 48th year.

11th December. At Rome, James Irvine, Esq., youngest son of the late Alexander Irvine, Esq. of Drum.

Queries.

599. "THE ROUGH TYKES OF TARLAND."—Can anyone supply me with the words of a not very dignified song known as "The Rough Tykes of Tarland" or "The Tarland Crew," and any information about it? I believe it was sung to the old Gaelic air "Cumail sinn rathad mor."

H. D.

400. Gordon in Tomindoes.—James Gordon married Mary Brown, and had—

1. Margaret Gordon, born at Rintarein, Crathie, August 11, 1784, and married John Brown, Leavel, having a son Samuel.

2. Janet Gordon (birth unrecorded) married —— Thomson, Tomindoes, and had issue.

3. Charles Gordon, born in Tomindoes, July 1, 1791; died in infancy.

4. Ann Gordon, born in Tomindoes, July 1, 1791, twin of Charles; died in infancy.

5. Mary Gordon, born in Tomindoes, March 2, 1793; married —— Morgan, Kylaereich, Glengairn, and had issue.

What relation, if any, was Tomindoes to Bovaglie?

J. M. Bulloch.

401. Tarrymichie-Clay.—In Rev. Walter Gregor's "Banffshire Dialect" the meaning of this expression, another form of Tawnymichie-clay, is given as "a fine kind of clay." What is the origin of the term?

Chas. Michie.

402. Colin Innes, Land Surveyor, Aberdeen.—Can any reader oblige me with the date of death of Mr Innes's wife? I am informed her name was Eliza Davidson.

A. B.

Answers.

380. Caterline.—Caterline was originally disjoined from Kinneff and formed into an independent parish. The heritors found themselves unable to make up a stipend and maintain the church fabric. On Kinneff becoming vacant in 1699, Caterline is believed to have been reunited to it. Services continued to be held at Caterline, but in 1700 the laird applied to the Presbytery for a grant of the vacant stipend to repair "the ruinous church."

A. B.

394. Francis Peacock, Dancing Master.—A good account of Peacock was furnished by Mr G. M. Fraser in the course of a series of articles on "Aberdeen Street Names and Their Story" contributed to the "Evening Gazette" (See the issue of May 5, 1909). Peacock came to Aberdeen from Edinburgh in 1747 on being appointed by the Town Council "sole dancing master within this burgh." He was originally located in the house in the Castlegate which had been the town residence of the Earls Marischal, and when it was cleared away on the formation of Marischal Street, he acquired a property at the Justice Street end of the Castlegate, the close in which it was situated having since borne the name of Peacock's Close. He also built a country-house near the Stocket brae, which he named Villa Franca—demolished a few years ago when Hamilton Place West was feued out. In 1762 he published a book, "Fifty Favourite Scotch Airs for the Violin"; and in 1805 "Sketches Relative to Dancing." He was married to an Ellen Forbes, and the baptisms of five of their children are recorded in the "Register of S. Paul's Episcopal Chapel, Aberdeen," by Alexander Emslie Smith, published in Vol. II. of the Miscellany of the New Spalding Club. Mr Peacock died 20th June, 1807, in his 84th year.

A.

No. 91.—January 12, 1910.

Reminiscences of Aberdeenshire Ministers.

The "Aberdeen Journal" obituary for 1823 has some very interesting entries suggestive of what happened in the quiet spaces of the lives of the men who filled the manses and pulpits in and around Aberdeen. There are two examples of men dying on the threshold of their ministries. One of these has a pathetic interest. Rev. David Sim, first minister of Union Chapel, was for some time schoolmaster of Monquhitter. He in all probability reached the status of a minister of the Church of Scotland by the method of partial sessions—i.e., going up to the Divinity classes for a few weeks annually, spread over a number of years. He must have tired of teaching, and taken to farming in Denmark. Returning to this country again, he became a teacher at Hilton Academy, near Banff, and reached the pulpit of Union Chapel rather late in life. It was a short ministry. He was ordained in the end of August, 1822, and died on 3rd January, 1823.

Dr George Skene Keith was the landed proprietor of Aquhorsk, in the parish of Kinellar, and held the cure of souls at Keith-hall for upwards of forty years. He got the parish after a famous law plea, which went to the House of Lords. The Commissioners of George, Earl Marischal, issued a presentation in favour of Mr Keith on 9th May, 1776. The noble earl also exercised his right of patronage on the 16th of the same month by presenting Rev. Thomas Tait, minister of the second charge of Oldmachar. A deadlock was the result, and the case—which is famous—went to the House of Lords, and was settled in Mr Keith's favour; but he was not ordained till 1778. He must have been an outstanding man in his day, and the work of his life was given to the northern parish. The two accounts in Dr Hew Scott's "Fasti" supplement each other. He was made a D.D. in 1805, and was translated to Tulliallan parish, in the Presbytery of Dunblane, in 1822. He was a man of unbounded energy, physically and mentally (proved by his unique works on the "Agriculture of Aberdeenshire," and "Different Methods of Establishing an Uniformity of Weights and Measures"), a popular preacher, a restless, active, bustling man, and an ecclesiastic. He did not live long to enjoy his new pastorate. He went south in 1822, and died in March, 1823. He insisted on going to a Presbytery meeting in a snowstorm, and lost his life. He had two sons—notable ones in their way—one of whom, Dr Alexander Keith, of St Cyrus Free Church, came out at the Disruption. He was a close friend of Rev. Robert Murray M'Cheyne whom he accompanied, along with Dr Andrew Bonar, to Palestine, where they founded the famous Mission to the Jews, which still endures. Dr Keith secundus was an able divine, solid and scholarly; but a throat affection kept him from being a popular preacher. His brother, Rev. John Keith, succeeded his father in Keithhall, and remained staunch to the Church of Scotland. He was a devoted minister, a model pastor, and an able man. One remembers hearing of him in one's boyhood as an influential and excellent country parson. Dr Alexander Keith, of St Cyrus, was an author, and dabbled in prophetical lore, after the manner of his time. One of his sons, George Skene Keith, M.D., LL.D., was for many years an eminent medical man in Edinburgh, but retired from practice in 1880. He, too, was an author, and had published, among other works, "Plea for a Simpler Life" and "Plea for a Simpler Faith." He died 12th January, 1910. Another distinguished son of Dr Alexander Keith was Dr Thomas Keith, a celebrated ovariotomist.

Rev. James Hogg, M.A., of Skene, who became D.D. in 1796, had a long ministry of 47 years, and must have been a man of some ability and prominence. A story respecting him used to circulate in Skene and the adjoining parishes forty years ago. One of the local "naturals"—those picturesque vagrants who, in the days before they were immured in the lunatic wards of poorhouses, must have brightened the sombre lives of the workers on the land in rural regions—figured in the tale as told by one who witnessed the incident. He was one of the peripatetic "feels"—the characters with a want—common in every district of Scotland. This man's name was Jamie Nicoll. He imagined that he could preach, and often tried his hand at exhorting. One Sunday morning he stole into the pulpit of the parish church of Skene, and was seated in the minister's place when Mr Hogg emerged from the vestry. The minister was a very dignified man, and when his eye caught the intruder, he said—"Come down, James! That's my place!" The rejoinder was very much to the point—"Na, na, Maister Hogg; come ye awa' up. They're a stiff-necked and rebellious generation, the folk o' Skene. There's wark enough for's baith!"

The deaths are recorded of two country ministers who reached and passed their jubilee. Rev. William Strachan, of Durris, was ordained in 1722, and discharged an uneventful ministry for 52 years. Rev. James Douglas, of Premnay, who died in the end of 1823 after a ministry of 52 years, had a son who was minister of Ellon, who has been handed down as a typical Moderate, and the hero of a curious and suggestive story, the scene of which is laid in the Parish Church of Tarves during a vacancy. Rev. Robert Douglas was Presbytery clerk, and, from all accounts, the Manse of Ellon was a place where drouthy ministers and schoolmasters and probationers gathered. Mr Douglas had a weakness for borrowing and preaching other men's discourses, and rarely wrote one himself. The story of his preaching the church of Tarves

vacant with a borrowed sermon on "Jacob was a plain man dwelling in tents" has gone the rounds for generations. The village blacksmith rose solemnly in his pew and said—"Jacob has dwalt ower lang here already," and walked out. The peculiar thing is that the details vary in the various accounts. In an article on "Scottish Moderatism," in the "British and Foreign Evangelical Review," it is said that the minister of Ellon preached the famous discourse the first time: that he deliberately sent a probationer with the same discourse the Sunday after; and that on the third Sunday, the man who had the best right to preach the sermon—namely, its author—appeared in the pulpit of Tarves, to the disgust of the congregation. The details vary, but the facts are pretty clear. Rev. Robert Douglas died young. His widow married the famous Dr Robertson, of Ellon, who succeeded her first husband. Dr Robertson was one of the ablest men who remained in at the Disruption. He became a Professor and a leader of the Church; he was the founder of the Endowment Scheme.

J. A.

The York Buildings Company.

The Scottish History Society has just published "A Selection of Scottish Forfeited Estates Papers—1715, 1745," edited by Mr A. H. Millar, LL.D., Dundee. It contains a brief account of the York Buildings Company, which played such a prominent part in the acquisition of estates forfeited by the participation of their owners in the two Jacobite rebellions. The name of the company was derived from York House, at one time the London residence of the Archbishops of York, which stood on the south side of the Strand, a little east of the present Charing Cross railway station. In 1675, Charles II. gave letters-patent to Ralph Bucknall and Ralph Wayne, empowering them to erect buildings in the grounds of York House for the purpose of supplying the inhabitants of the district with water; and in 1691 the company was incorporated under the title of "The Governor and Company of Undertakers for raising the Thames Water in York Buildings." The charter of the company gave the partners power to acquire land; and in March, 1719, Mr Case Biltingsley, a solicitor, one of the active speculators of the time, seeing the difficulty which the Government had in disposing of the forfeited estates, devised an ingenious plan. He and five other associates purchased the whole stock of the company for £7000; and in October the York Buildings Company floated a joint stock fund of £1,200,000 "for purchasing forfeited and other estates in Great Britain." The company then purchased the estate of the Earl of Winton for £50,500; the Kilsyth estates for £15,000; East Reston for £2564; and the Panmure estates for £60,400. These four estates involved an outlay by the company of £129,064. In October, 1720, five more estates were purchased—Marischal, £41,172; Southesk, £21,549; Lindithgow, £18,751; Fingask, £9000; and Pitcairn, £6849, making a total of £121,927, which, with the estates of Rob Roy (£822) and of Widdrington in Northumberland, brought up the total of purchases in these two years to £302,913.

"These extensive purchases" (says Mr Millar) "had so much the appearance of 'plundering' that the confidence of London investors was seriously shaken. The shares of the company, which in August, 1720, had ranged at 225, fell in November to 14, and were unsaleable. Mr Billingsley then devised a lottery as a method of raising funds, but this proved a failure. Other plans were tried without success, and the company, though holding more land in Scotland than any other proprietor, was soon in serious straits and had to crave time to overtake their obligations. . . . Had the company been more intent upon developing the industries of the country than on amassing gigantic sums, Scotland would have profited by the bargain which replaced the attainted noblemen by astute commercial speculators. But the company soon became involved in endless litigation. At length, by a special Act of Parliament in 1829, the company was dissolved after a variegated existence of over 150 years."

The most complete account of the company is to be found in "The York Buildings Company: A Chapter in Scotch History," by David Murray, LL.D., Glasgow, published in 1905.

Portraits of the First Five Jameses.

Head-size panels of the first five Jameses have recently been added to the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, and reproductions of these portraits are given in the January number of the "Scottish Historical Review." Mr James L. Caw, the former Curator of the Gallery (now Curator of the National Gallery), furnishing a brief commentary. Beyond the fact that these pictures—painted in oils upon oak panels, and probably once forming part of the decoration of a panelled room—were for many years in the possession of the father of the gentleman from whom they have been acquired, nothing is known of their history, though it has been suggested that they may have come from an old castle in Forfarshire which belonged to the family. Internal evidence, says Mr Caw, indicates that they were painted in Scotland, perhaps during the reign of James V. (1512-1542), and certainly not later than the latter part of the sixteenth century. They have thus an artistic as well as a personal interest, as "any portrait, which can be assumed with some degree of certainty to have been painted in Scotland before the emergence of Jamesone in 1620, becomes of distinct historical importance."

"As regards the claims of these pictures to represent credibly the Stewart Kings, there is no reasonable doubt. While those of the first four Jameses must have been painted years after they were dead (James I. was murdered at Perth in 1437—the likenesses were almost cer-

tainly founded upon earlier portraits, then existing but now lost. Perhaps the variety of character, which plays through an obvious family resemblance, is not the least interesting feature of the series as such. Nearly all have thin pale faces with the boney structure showing below the skin, high cheek bones and chins of a marked type, hazel or brown eyes, and hair, which, varying in hue, inclines to ruddiness. Yet each differs from the other definitely, and obviously represents an individual of personal character. In each case also the face has considerable resemblance to that in the oldest known traditional portrait, and the costumes are archæologically correct."

Scottish Bishops in the Medieval Period.

Bishop Dowden, in continuation of an article in the October number of the "Scottish Historical Review," writes in the January issue on "The Scottish Crown and the Episcopate in the Medieval Period." (See No. 81 - November 3, 1909.) The period is chiefly marked by the struggle of the Church against the investiture of Bishops by the King. A similar struggle was carried on in England, and was ended by an agreement come to with Henry I. (1107) that there was to be no investiture by ring and staff, but the Bishops were to do homage on their appointment to their sees; and this policy was gradually reflected in the English practice. It is beyond doubt, however, that in Scotland the licence to elect a Bishop had first to be obtained from the King, and the King's assent to the election was also sought before asking confirmation from the Pope. In this connection, Dr Dowden directs attention to the frequency with which the more important sees were filled from the royal chaplains or other ecclesiastics holding offices in the King's court; in 1187, for instance, Richard, "clerk of King William," was elected to the see of Moray, and in 1207 Adam, the King's clerk, was elected to Aberdeen. Men were even appointed to bishopries who were in the inferior ranks of the ministry. When the Adam just mentioned was elected to the Bishopric of Aberdeen, "the Pope inquired whether he had got himself ordained subdeacon with a view to his election," and "Henry le Chen was not in priest's orders when elected (1282) to Aberdeen."

"It would seem that, while it is evident that the influence of the Scottish Kings had always been great in determining the appointments made to bishopries, towards the close of the fifteenth century there had been something of the nature of a formal, or informal, concordate between the Popes and the Scottish monarchs on this subject. In 1485 we find James III., supported by Parliament, directing his commissioners to address strong language to the Pope about a recent appointment made by the Pope to the bishopric of Dunkeld. They are ordered to 'schew and declare deterlytly to our said haly fader that our couveran lord wil not suffre maister George Broun nor nane othirs that has presumyt to be promovit to the said bischopric of Dunkelden, contrar our couveran lord's mynd, will, and speciale wreting, to have ony possessionne of the samyn.' It is true that the King eventually yielded the point—induced, it is said, by a gift of money. But the tone of the communication served as a warning to the Roman curia."

The Gordons in Camlet.

There is some mistake. My information to Mr Bulloch was that Margaret Gordon, born 11th August, 1784, daughter of James Gordon and Mary Brown, did not marry John Gordon, Camlet, but John Brown, Leavel. (Glenmuick Reg., 3rd December, 1809.) Her gravestone in Crathie Churchyard is inscribed—"Sacred to the memory of Margaret Gordon, wife of John Brown, Farmer, Leavel, who died 12th January, 1825, aged 50 years." This Margaret Gordon had a sister, Mary Gordon (Mrs Morgan), died in Glenmuick since 1854, and Margaret Gordon (Mrs John Gordon, Camlet) had a sister Nicholas Gordon (Mrs Joseph Gordon), died in Crathie also since 1854, therefore the new registers will give the parents of each of these Margaret Gordons, and prove who they were.

C. Brown.

I am much indebted to Mr Brown for his correction, and only wish that other correspondents would come forward with the facts they know. Mr Brown also points out in a letter to me that there is some mistake about the age of John Gordon of Camlet's wife, Euphemia M'Andrew. She could not have been 71 in 1801 if she was the mother of Margaret, born 1784; and of Jean, born 1795. As to the sons by the second marriage with the above Margaret Gordon, Mr Brown adds some facts—

Alexander Gordon, born 1803, and married when an old man about Bucklyvie, and died there without issue.

James Gordon, not given in my list; married Isabella Simpson, Shennach, Strathdon, and had issue.

Elizabeth Gordon, the twin of James (not given by me), married James Kennedy, "from the south," and had issue. James succeeded his father in Camlet, and Alexander stayed with him. Their sister Elizabeth and her husband, Kennedy, got a house on the place, and certain land. Ultimately Kennedy got the whole place. His brother-in-law, Alexander, went south, and James became a cattle dealer on Deeside, and died in Aberdeen, where some of his family are still living. Others of them emigrated.

John Gordon in Camlet had a niece Kate Gordon, who married —— Fraser, and died at Dryley, or Tommakeist, Glenmuick, about 30 or 40 years ago. She had one son, who was drowned while bathing in the Dee "one Sacrament Sunday at Ballater about 1850."

J. M. Bulloch.

Inscriptions in High United Free Church, Aberdeen.

Although there are no memorials in this church, there is an old baptismal bowl which forms an interesting relic of the old Gaelic Church in Gaelic Lane, which the congregation vacated in 1882 in favour of a new church erected in Dee Street. Mr Alexander Neil Macdonald, solicitor, Aberdeen, writes me to the effect that the bowl has been used only once between the date mentioned and November, 1907, the occasion being the baptism in the Union Hall of the last child baptised in connection with St Columba United Free Church as a separate congregation, when he lent it for the purpose. Had it formed part of the regular equipment at Dee Street, it would have been confiscated to the Free Church, along with all the other possessions. The bowl bears the following inscription:—

BAPTISMAL
BOWL
USED IN
THE GAELIC CHURCH
OF ABERDEEN
FROM
1795 TO 1882.

To Mr Alexander Gammie ("Ecclesiasticus") I am specially indebted for the subjoined particulars of the various ministers who used the bowl during their ministerial career:—

The interesting relic harks back to the time when the Gaelic congregation founded a church on a feu of ground near what afterwards became designated as Gaelic Lane, between Belmont Street and Back Wynd. The building was founded on 10th March, 1795, and before the completion of their church, Mr Kenneth Bayne (who succeeded his brother, Mr Donald Bayne, who left in 1791 to become minister of the Little Kirk at Elgin) accepted a call to Greenock. His immediate successor was Rev. John Mackenzie, who conducted the opening services in the new Gaelic Chapel on 30th August, 1795. He was translated in 1798 to Glasgow, where he became minister of the Duke Street Chapel, his successor being Rev. James MacPhail, second son of Rev. James MacPhail, of Resolis. He remained only a year and was succeeded by Rev. William Forbes (brother-in-law of the famous Rev. Donald Sage), who left in 1800 to become minister of the parish of Tarbat, in Ross-shire. Next came Rev. Neil Kennedy, who was inducted November, 1804; he left in 1808 for Logie, in Easter Ross. Mr John Mackenzie, the former pastor, who had been formerly asked to succeed Rev. William Forbes, readily returned, remaining in Aberdeen until 1813. In 1814, Rev. Duncan Grant succeeded, and he laboured till 1819. Before leaving, Mr Grant presented the solid silver cups which subsequently were used at the Communion services.

He was followed by Rev. Donald Sage, already mentioned, who settled in Aberdeen in July, 1819. Mr Sage will be best remembered as the author of a very valuable work (published in 1889 by W. Rae, Wick) entitled "Memorabilia Domestica," edited by his son, Rev. Donald Fraser Sage. Rev. Donald Sage resigned in 1821 on being appointed to the parish of Resolis, where he laboured for the very long period of forty-eight years. Rev. Robert Clark, from Tongue, was his successor in 1822; but he resigned on 7th April, 1823, owing to ill-health. Rev. Hugh Mackenzie, a native of Kiltarlity, Inverness-shire, inducted August, 1823, succeeded him. During his ministry, several important developments took place. He served the congregation faithfully for thirty-three years. In 1856, he had a colleague and successor, Rev. Colin Sinclair, who left in 1862 to go to the Free Church at Invergordon. Mr Hugh Mackenzie died, greatly lamented, on 31st January, 1859, and was buried in St Nicholas Churchyard, Aberdeen, five graves to the right of a granite obelisk, which has the following inscription:—

South Side.

Erected by / the Gaelic Congregation, / Aberdeen, / in memory of / their esteemed pastor, / the Rev. Hugh Mackenzie, A.M., / who laboured in word / and ordinances among them / during a period of 33 years. / Born Feb., 1787, died 31st Jan., 1859./ "Is Beannuichte na mairbh a cheibh / bas san tighearn."

North Side.

Sacred also to the memory / of his children, / James Alexander, / who died 27th April, 1827, / aged 3 months. / Marianne, who died 13th Jany., 1831. / William, / who died 11th March, 1831, / aged 2 years and 1 month. / Alexander, / who died 23rd Sept., 1855, / aged 24 years. / George, / who died 13th May, 1859, / aged 21 years.

East Side.

Sacred also to the memory / of / Ann Fraser, / the faithful and beloved wife of / Rev. Hugh Mackenzie, / who died 8th March, 1859, / aged 63 years. / "The righteous shall be in everlasting / remembrance." Psalm cxii. and 6.

Another son, whose death should be duly recorded on the west side of the monument, was Mr Hugh Mackenzie (born in Aberdeen, 1835), late chief teller at the Head Office of the North of Scotland Bank, who died 16th May, 1909, an obituary notice of whom will be found in the "Evening Express" of 17th May, 1909.

Rev. George MacDonald, born at Forsie, son of Mr Neil MacDonald, farmer, became

minister in April, 1864. It was during his able incumbency that the old church in Gaelic Lane was abandoned the congregation removing in 1882 to a building in Dee Street, when the name of St Columba was adopted. Rev. George MacDonald married—first, Elizabeth Helen Elder, daughter of Rev. John Elder,* Disruption minister of Walls, Shetland, and had issue Alexander Neil MacDonald, solicitor, Aberdeen, and John George MacDonald, secretary in Ireland for the Scottish Union and National Insurance Company, who died in Dublin, 1st August, 1894. Mr MacDonald married, secondly, Catherine Russel Mackenzie, youngest daughter of Rev. Hugh Mackenzie, of the Gaelic Church, Aberdeen and had the following issue—Annie and Elizabeth Helen Elder, Principals of St Helen's School for Girls, Bridge of Allan; Charlotte Balfour, M.A. (Edinburgh), teacher, Edinburgh; and Catherine Frances Mary, M.A. (Aberdeen), Classical Mistress, Madras College, St Andrews. Rev. George MacDonald died on 4th March, 1893, aged 66 years, and was buried in Allenvale Cemetery, Aberdeen, where an elegant Iona cross was erected to his memory. Particulars of Mr MacDonald's early career will be found in "In Memoriam" of 1893 (pp. 78-80), and in Mr Alexander Gammie's "Aberdeen Churches" (Aberdeen, 1909).

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

A Gordon Epitaph.

In Mr Ernest R. Suffling's amusing new book "Epitaphia" the following is quoted from Reading (p. 145)—

"Here lies the body of William Gordon:
He'd mouth almighty and teeth accordin':
Stranger—tread lightly on this sod,
For if he gapes, you're gone, by G——!"

Collins's Posthumous Ode.

On the death of the poet Collins, in 1759, his literary executors regretted the loss of an "Ode on the Popular Superstitions of the Highlands of Scotland," which was fragmentary and unfinished, addressed to Rev. John Home, author of the tragedy of "Douglas." Collins had been introduced to Home in the autumn of 1749 at Winchester by Mr John Barrow, Home's companion, in their escape from Doune Castle in 1746, during the rebellion of that period. Collins conceived a great affection for Home, who was a most engaging and prepossessing young man at that time, and one would have liked to have heard and recorded the conversation of the three friends on that particular occasion. Doubtless Highland fancies and phantasies were enumerated. These formed the groundwork of the famous Ode, and Home returned to Scotland with a copy of the unfinished poem.

When the complaint of Collins's executors became known in Scotland, Rev. Alexander Carlyle, minister of Inveresk, remembered Home (who was an intimate friend) reading over the Ode to him, and that he (Carlyle) was so struck with its excellence that he wrote out a copy of it. He hunted amongst his papers, and eventually found the manuscript; but as it was imperfect, he submitted it to the judgment of Mr Henry Mackenzie, author of "The Man of Feeling," "Julia de Roubigne," etc., and they filled in the gaps of the unfinished verses. Such is the statement of Hill Burton, the historian, who edited Dr Carlyle's Autobiography, which was published in 1860.

But Burton could never have consulted Dr Robert Anderson's edition of "The British Poets," 14 vols., 1792-1807; for in Collins's poems Anderson has the fifth and sixth stanzas of this Ode printed in italics as the handiwork of Mackenzie, to distinguish them from Collins's verses. However, thus amended, the poem was presented to the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1783, and presumably printed in their "Transactions," but that volume is not in our public library, and I have not seen it. Anderson was the literary Mæcenas of Edinburgh at the beginning of last century, the friend of Campbell, Leyden, and other poets; and his account may be considered to be scrupulously correct. In my copy of Collins's poems Mackenzie's additions are included without any intimation of indebtedness to him. The fifth stanza begins "Or on some bellying rock that shades the deep," and the sixth is only eight lines, and, therefore, incomplete. I tried to finish the verse myself, and subjoin the attempt. While I would shrink with innate dread from daring to interfere with the work of Collins, I have no compunction whatever in eking out the sketch of Mackenzie. Here it is—

Or if on land the fiend exerts his sway,
Silent he broods o'er quicksand, bog, or fen.
Far from the sheltering roofs and haunts of men,
When witched darkness shuts the eye of day,
And shrouds each star that wont to cheer the night;
Or if the drifted snow perplex the way,
With treacherous gleam he lures the fated wight,
And leads him floundering on and quite astray.
Then will he madly struggle to be free,
The thought of home will nerve him in despair;
But as the quivering light allures him, see
He sinks the deeper in the devilish snare.
Down swoops the storm on his devoted head,
And chilly falls the furious sleety rain;
He hesitates, and wildly looks for aid:
His limbs relax, his efforts are in vain,
He yields to deadly sleep, and ne'er will wake again.

* The widow of Mr Elder still survives, and is, if not the last, one of the two last surviving of the wives of ministers who left their manses at the Disruption of 1843.

The seventh verse about the "illustrious William" of Cumberland might well be omitted; but I would like to see the three beautiful verses by Scott's friend, William Erskine (Lord Kinneder) on the Wraith, the Brownie, and the Fairy Changeling, inserted in any Scottish edition of this Ode. They appeared first in the "Edinburgh Magazine" for April, 1788, and were republished in Sir Walter Scott's "Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border," Appendix No. VI. They commemorate superstitions not dwelt upon by Collins, and might be printed after the verse on St Kilda. Then the Ode would be a complete and harmonious setting of the traditionary lore of the remote past of auld Scotia.

Since writing the above, I have come across a remarkable statement in the correspondence of Francis Horner, in a letter addressed to the celebrated Scottish antiquary, Mr Thomas Thomson, and dated from Woburn Abbey, in November, 1815. He says—

"I have made out the history of those supplementary stanzas in Collins's 'Ode on the Superstitions of the Highlands,' which puzzled us. They are a mere fabrication. Mackintosh (Sir James), who told me the story, would not mention the man's name; but it was a very low northern litterateur, who about 25 years ago (1790) published at Cadell's shop a new edition of that Ode as from another manuscript with all the blanks and vacancies supplied. The additions were one and all a forgery of his own, of which he boasted to Mackintosh. The man is dead. This piece of literary history ought to be made known, for the forgery has not only crept into the edition of Collins which I showed you, and that is part of a general collection, but also into the large body of the English poets published by Chalmers."

This literary sharper of whom Horner writes so disparagingly could be neither Anderson nor Mackenzie, for they both outlived the writer, one dying in 1830, and the other in 1831. I am of opinion that it was that Perthshire Bohemian, William Thomson, LL.D., who died at Kensington on 16th March, 1817. He was capable and unscrupulous enough to do the job; but perhaps Mr G. M. Fraser may elucidate the point. Burton ignored it.

ALBA.

Melbourne, Australia.

"Man-of-War's Man."

I recently complained that Mrs Oliphant's "History of the Publishing House of Blackwood," and inferentially of the great magazine which brought the house fame and fortune, gave no definite information as to its early contributors. Who, for instance, was the "Man-of-War's Man," who wrote such graphic sketches of life on shipboard, with excursions on shore? They appeared in "Blackwood" about 1825-6, and extended to 20 chapters, and expressed the ordinary sailor-man's view. Captain Marryat had not published any of his highly seasoned sea-yarns then, so that the "Man-of-War's Man" could not be accused of copying from him.

I have since discovered that the writer was a Scottish printer—a pressman named Charles David Stewart. "Old Charley" and "Navarino" were the names by which he was known to the elderly printers of my youth. He was born in Leith about 1784, and trained as a pressman in a printing office in Edinburgh, which he left for the navy. He was on board the Clio frigate in 1803, and he was present at the sea fight of Navarino. When he left the navy or was discharged, he again returned to the printing press, and worked in various towns, rambling about from place to place. He had a great friend in Aberdeen, the late William M'Vicker, who was "boss" of Bennett's printing room, and had been in the navy himself.

I saw the old literary tar when I was a youngster, and his reminiscences literally enthralled me, for he had great descriptive power; a slap from auld Willie and a forcible order to attend to my work used to break the spell. Poor Charlie! he drifted away, and finally was stranded in St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, where he died in great poverty on 18th February, 1850, aged 66. The obituary notice stated that he wrote for the "Naval and Military Magazine" as well as for "Blackwood."

I think a selection from his writings would have made a capital volume—the story of "Jack Adams," for instance, and "The Cooper of Thorsund and His Family," which appeared in "Blackwood" of December, 1827. The cooper, Jerome Yell, is a photograph from the life, I am persuaded; Society in the Faroe Isles, with a glimpse of Lerwick thrown in, is depicted by a master hand. The baronet alluded to was, I suppose, Sir George Stewart Mackenzie, who visited Iceland in 1810 and published a book of his travels.

ALBA

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1832.

5th January. Here, Mrs Katharine Forbes, widow of John Forbes of Boyndlie.

7th January. At her house, Dee Place, Aberdeen, in her 63rd year, Frances, daughter of the late Thomas Barstow, Esq., of Leeds, and niece to Sir Alexander Bannerman, fourth Baronet of Elsick.

7th January. At Aberdeen, William Kilgour, chaise-hirer, aged 52.

18th January. At Mary-Park, Tanfield, Mary Edmond, spouse of Robert Garden, Esq., aged 71.

18th January. At Oldmeldrum, in his 69th year, Mr James Forbes, for many years factor for the late General Gordon Cuming Skene and other proprietors.

23rd January. At Stonehaven, John Low, Esq. of Hilton, Writer, Stonehaven, aged 70.

26th January. At Edinburgh, Margaret Bartlet, relict of John Stewart, Esq. of Skelmuir, Aberdeenshire.

8th February. At Manse of Tough, Rev. Alexander Urquhart, minister of that parish, in his 73rd year.

13th February. At Manse of Fordyce, Rev. Alexander Humphrey, in his 71st year.

22nd February. In his 71st year, William Johnston, Esq. of Viewfield, merchant in Aberdeen.

23th February. At Whitehill, Grange, Rev. John Primrose, minister of the United Secession Congregation there, in his 81st year.

26th February. At Tannachy, Captain James Grant of Tannachy, aged 90.

8th April. Here, Rev. William Leith, minister, South Parish, in his 31st year.

17th April. At Portobello, John Innes, Esq. of Cowie, in his 56th year.

16th April. At Clola, Rev. William Mitchell, in his 85th year.

24th April. Here, John Watson, Esq., Advocate.

2nd May. William Duff, Esq. of Corsindae, in his 83rd year.

26th May. At Manse of Dyce, Mrs Russell, widow of John Russell, Esq. of Balmaad.

3rd June. At Laurencekirk, in his 40th year, John Wood, teacher there.

30th May. At Torquay, Mr John Catto, merchant, Aberdeen.

25th July. At Countesswells House, Rev. Robert Reid, M.A., Master of the Academy there, in his 37th year.

31st July. At Concraig, Jane Isabella, eldest daughter of the late John Robert Smith of Concraig.

17th August. At London, Helen, wife of Walter Learmonth, Esq., and daughter of the late John Annand, Esq. of Belnoon, Aberdeen.

13th August. At Aberdeen, Mr Hugh Morren, merchant, aged 36.

14th August. At Kirton of Fraserburgh James Scott, M.D., in his 50th year.

23th August. At Aberdeen, Mary Ann Sim, wife of Charles Phillips, shipmaster, in her 32nd year.

10th September. Here, James Calder, Esq., wine merchant, in his 87th year.

21st September. Sir Walter Scott, the eminent novelist.

1st October. At Skene, Jean, wife of Rev. Charles Skene, Parochial Schoolmaster, Skene.

15th September. At Uppermill, Tarves William Smith, Esq. of Hatton, in his 80th year.

15th October. At Shannaburn, Mrs Jane Reith, widow of Andrew Simpson, late merchant, Aberdeen, aged 35.

12th October. In her 75th year, Miss Isabella Cruickshank, daughter of the late Bailie Robert Cruickshank, merchant, Old Aberdeen.

4th November. At Ravelston, Sir Alexander Keith of Dunottar, Knight Marischal of Scotland.

11th November. At Union Grove, Mary Ramsay, daughter of Gavin Hadden, Esq.

17th November. At Old Aberdeen, Jane, daughter of the late Dr Alexander Gerard Professor of Divinity in King's College and University.

21st November. Here, Alexander Crombie, Esq. of Phesdo, aged 66.

2nd December. At Peterhead, Robert Robertson, Esq. of Boddam, in his 72nd year.

10th December. Here, David Hutcheon, Esq., Advocate, aged 67.

22nd December. At Edinburgh, Mrs Euphemia Turner, widow of Thomas Buchan, Esq. of Auchmacoy.

23rd December. At Aberdeen, Charles Gordon, Esq. of Wardhouse and Kildrummy, in his 83rd year.

Queries.

403. Rev. John Grant, Abernethy. — Can any reader oblige me with the date of death of Rev. John Grant, who was minister of Abernethy?

John Smith.

404. Cochran Village, Kincardine O'Neil. —When, and from what circumstances, was the name Cochran Village applied?

Deeside.

405. "The Banks of the Dee."—Who was the author of this poem, and what is known of his career?

T. D.

406. "Cocket Hat."—A small property or field in the neighbourhood of Aberdeen bore this title. Where was it?

A. B.

Answers.

375. James Mercer.—Through the courtesy of the sexton, Mr Alexander Gammack, I have examined an old plan (1790), of St Nicholas Churchyard, which was recopied faithfully in the year 1833 by J[ohn] Smith [City Architect, Aberdeen], several additions being incorporated therein. From the plan, it is evident that Major James Mercer's grave is situated on the north side of what was the old East Parish Church, contiguous to a building, or room, known as "the session house." This house, as "Alba" is doubtless aware, was dismantled when the present fabric came into existence. The exterior freestone wall-monument to the lyrical bard is now almost obliterated, and in order to examine it very closely, I had a ladder placed against the boiler house, and had to walk on the flat roof of that building to read it. The sexton—who takes more than an ordinary interest in his duties—has copied the inscription for me. It reads thus—

Near this place are deposited / the remains of / James Mercer Esquire of Auchnacant / and of / Katherine Douglas his wife. /

Happy in their union here / they cherished the hopes of happiness hereafter. /

James Mercer was born 27 February 1733 O.S. / and died 27th November 1804. / Mrs Mercer was born 8th April 1743 O.S. / and died 3rd January 1802. / They were married 13th September 1763. /

In affectionate remembrance of / a much beloved brother and sister / this stone is placed here by / Sylvester Douglas, Lord Glenbervie. / 1805./

Mr William Walker, Aberdeen, gives a critical estimate of Mercer's position as a lyrical bard. I would suggest that this memorial be taken down from its present position, and a new one erected in—say—Drum's Aisle. Its chance of preservation would thus be more secure.

It may be added that a good illustration of Major Mercer forms the frontispiece of the 1805 edition of his "Lyric Poems."

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

383. William Craig, Ross Herald.—For interesting notes on William Craig, see Jervise's "Epitaphs," II., 351-52.

B.

452. Colin Innes, Land Surveyor, Aberdeen.—Eliza Davidson, wife of Colin Innes, died at Aberdeen, 25th November, 1816, in her 57th year.

G. D

No. 92.—January 19, 1910.

Sale of Dunecht.

It is understood that Sir Weetman Dickinson Pearson, head of the well-known firm of S. Pearson and Son (Limited), contractors, Westminster, has purchased the estate of Dunecht. Sir Weetman Pearson has been sporting tenant of the property for some years. The new proprietor, who is an advanced Liberal in politics, has been M.P. for Colchester since 1895. He was created a baronet in 1894, and since his temporary connection with Aberdeenshire he and Lady Pearson have taken a keen interest in the welfare of the community.

The estate came into possession of the Forbes family through the marriage of Thomas Forbes, son of Alexander Forbes of Brux, to Marjory Stewart, the heiress, and niece of the Earl of Mar, 1437-60. It remained in possession of the Forbeses for nearly three centuries, when, in 1726, it passed into the hands of the Duffs of the Earl of Fife's family. In 1803 it reverted to proprietors of the name of Forbes, who were very remotely, if at all, related to the old Forbeses of Echt. William Forbes of Springhill, who purchased the estate in the year referred to, was a partner in the firm of Forbes and Company, merchants and manufacturers, Aberdeen, and was a descendant of the Waterton branch of the Forbeses of Tolquhon. His city residence on the quay side is now occupied as the Board of Trade Offices. Mr Forbes died at Housedale in 1820. He was succeeded by his son James, who, according to the "New Statistical Account," published in 1843, effected so many improvements, that—"No parish in the county has undergone greater improvement in reclaiming waste land, enclosing, draining, making roads, and erecting farm buildings." He died in Aberdeen in 1850. In 1845 the estate was purchased from Mr Forbes by James, 24th Earl of Crawford and 7th Earl of Balcarres, the price being—as stated in the "Aberdeen Journal" of 5th November of that year—£117,000. The Earl died in 1869, and was succeeded by Alexander William Crawford Lindsay, the 25th Lord Crawford, who died at Florence on 13th December, 1880. His body—after having been embalmed—was interred in the family vault beneath the private chapel of the mansion-house of Dunecht on the 29th of the same month. In 1881 the body was stolen from the vault. The theft created a remarkable sensation at the time, which was intensified when, several months later, the body was discovered in the adjoining policies. A monument marks the spot and bears this inscription:—

In Memoriam.
Under this spot the body of
Alexander,
Earl of Crawford
(Sacrilegiously stolen from the vault under the Dunecht Chapel),
Lay hidden during 14 months.

He shall give His angels charge over thee.—Ps. xci.

He that keepeth thee will not slumber.—Ps. cxxi.

Astra Castra
Numen Lumen
Munimen.

The Latin inscription may be translated—

Beyond the Stars our Home.
God our Light and Strength.

The body, after recovery, was reinterred in the family vault at Wigan. The mystery of the theft of Lord Crawford's body remains unsolved to this day, although one man has endured five years' penal servitude for participation in the crime. The family, not unnaturally, took a dislike to the mansion, and quitted it, and a fine observatory, which belonged to the present Earl of Crawford—James Ludovic Lindsay, the Lord Lindsay of Transit of Venus fame—was dismantled, the instruments and a magnificent astronomical library now forming the main component of the observatory on the Blackford Hill, Edinburgh.

In 1897 a company was projected, with the Earl of Moray at its head, with the view of purchasing Dunecht House for the purpose of transforming it into a high class school of the rank of Eton and Harrow. This project did not ripen, however, and the estate and mansion-house became the property of Mr Alexander Charles Pirie in 1899. Mr Pirie spent large

sums in the improvement of the property, which extends to nearly 9000 acres. He died at Boscombe, near Bournemouth, on 24th December, 1907.

The front portion of the present Duncecht House, facing the south, was built in 1859. It is a plain and unpretentious building of the Italian order of architecture, and was designed by Mr William Smith, architect, Aberdeen. Between 1877 and 1881 a couple of wings were added, the wing to the west including a library with a chapel beyond. The designing of these portions of the building was entrusted to the late Mr George Edmund Street, who produced an edifice eminently characteristic of his style, moulding the obdurate white granite of the district into the Gothic forms he loved so much. It is said to have been Lord Crawford's intention to demolish the front portion, and erect a building in conformity with the wings; but this was never carried out. The exterior of the library wing is noticeable for its curious battlement—an attempt to reproduce in stone the "tartan check" in the Lindsay coat-of-arms; also for the family motto "Endure Fort" and "L" surmounted by a coronet—Lindsay being the family name of the Earls of Crawford. There is a projecting tower, in which is a winding staircase, the windows of the tower being made in conformity with the skew of the staircase and not on the straight—a feature said to be almost unique. Though complete externally, the building was never finished internally. Almost the only finished work in the chapel is the beautiful stalls, which were executed in Florence—the chapel, it is said, was built for these stalls; not, as is ordinarily the case, the stalls for the chapel. The library, too, is not quite finished; it is a room of large and lofty proportions, with an arched roof of panelled oak. Other features of the house are an entrance hall and corridor and two staircases—one of them carried on polished granite pillars; the other was painted by Italian artists, the decoration culminating at the roof in the representation of the Four Seasons of Life—Childhood, Youth, Manhood, and Old Age.

It should be added that Mr Pirie contributed largely to the embellishment of Duncecht House. He, for one thing, rendered it a thoroughly "up to date" residence by introducing complete systems of sanitation, hot and cold water circulation, heating, and lighting by acetylene gas—all on the most modern and approved principles. In addition, he re-decorated the rooms throughout from the basement to the top floor; had the floor of the chapel laid with white marble; constructed a beautiful conservatory adjoining the entrance door; and built a new range of hothouses at the gardens. His ownership is marked by several tablets in receptacles in the walls of the House, bearing the monogram "A. C. P." Mr Pirie, besides, macadamised over five miles of the drives in the policies; built a large number of lodges and cottages in the villages of Waterton and Echt; and renewed a considerable proportion of the farm buildings, dykes, ditches, etc., on the estate.

"Consumption" Dykes.

In some parts of Aberdeenshire, when the early improvement in agriculture was being carried out, the stones that were cleared off the fields were occasionally collected together and formed into long, broad dykes. These used to be called "consumption" dykes—presumably because the stones were practically consumed by the process. The phrase is apparently unknown elsewhere, and the suggested derivation has been challenged—particularly by those who have never seen such dykes—as illogical and absurd. But, curiously enough, it is employed in one of the earliest accounts of these curious dykes known to the present writer. Francis Douglas, in his "Description of the East Coast of Scotland," written in 1780, furnishes an account of the agricultural improvements that were then being conducted in the neighbourhood of Aberdeen. Incidentally, he says—

"We rode two miles farther west" [from "an eminence called the Stocket-brae"], "to see a farm called Dykeside, on which, and some fields on the Stocket, a gentleman in town laid out about two thousand pounds sterling. It lies in a narrow bottom, environed with high hills. Much of the ground was full of great stones, which obstructed the plough; to consume them, after they were blown and cut, some of the fences were built five feet thick at the bottom. It was greatly against this improver that he was at too great a distance for sending his cut stones to town; nor was any crop he could raise so valuable as the same quantity, within a mile or two of a market."

Several "consumption" dykes on the estate of Kingswells are to be seen on the road leading from Kingswells United Free Church to Fairley. One in particular is a very noticeable dyke, of truly magnificent proportions; its dimensions are given in Patrick Morgan's "Annals of Woodside and Newhills" as 33 feet broad, upwards of 6 feet high, and about 500 yards long, with a paved footpath in the middle. The construction of this dyke might even be termed elaborate. Openings are provided in the dyke at intervals to permit of communication between fields crossed or (in one instance) access to a "watering," and at each side of the opening the paved footpath descends by regular steps to the level of the fields. This dyke runs westward and terminates in a plantation, a footpath in which leads to Kingswells House. There is another dyke running eastward, about 6 feet broad, also with a paved footpath; and there are quite a number of them in the neighbourhood. These dykes, however, are of later date than the dykes inspected by Francis Douglas, and form part of the great improvements on the estate of Kingswells, carried out

by the late Mr Francis Edmond, LL.D., advocate, Aberdeen, who purchased the estate in 1854. The following interesting particulars are furnished by Rev. Dr Smith, parish minister of Newhills—

"Mr Edmond's purpose was, besides obtaining a permanent fence that would really endure, to use the surplus stones so as not to offend the eye, and, by laying a rough pavement of selected stones on the top, to have a dry elevated walk over that part of the property. This walk he continued eastward in a nicely-shaped walk through a plantation to the limit of Kingswells estate on the Goose Hill. Some fine specimens of dykes similarly erected may be seen at the sides of the Skene Road at Hazelhead, and there is a heap or rough cairn of surplus stones in the plantation on the north side of the road. The problem was how to get these stones disposed of with the least carriage and with the least impediment to tillage, and the consumption dyke was one of the expedients adopted. Mr William Adam of Buckshaven (of Messrs Adam and Anderson, advocates, Aberdeen) worked out an idea of his own. He made double dykes at some distance apart, with trees between; his dykes were mostly associated with hedges or trees, or both.

"When land reclamation went on vigorously in the first half and towards the middle of the last century, the parish of Newhills was in the front of the movement. The first field drainage on the modern furrow drain principle, executed north of the Tay, was carried out on a large scale at Hope Farm, and afterwards at Buckshaven, by Mr Adam. Persons came from various parts of the country to see Mr Adam's operations in reclaiming moorland and waste. The surplus stones were used for drainage till pipes became common; also for road-making and fencing, and for farm buildings. The parish church of Newhills was built of stones excavated and quarried at the site."

Several "consumption" dykes, it may be added, are to be observed on the road from Ellon to Methlick.

[Any additional information respecting the subject of the above article will be welcomed.—Ed.]

Royal Visits to Aberdeen in Olden Times.

The visit to Aberdeen of Her Majesty Queen Victoria for the first time—on 7th September, 1848—induced the "Aberdeen Journal" to publish (on the preceding day) the following account of previous royal visits to the city. The article, which was written by Mr John Ramsay, is given in his "Selected Writings," which appeared in 1871. It possesses sufficient intrinsic interest (apart from the circumstances in which it was written) to warrant reproduction.

Some of our old chroniclers will have it that Aberdeen was one of the residences of the usurper Grig, commonly called Gregory the Great, whose misty history belongs to the latter half of the ninth century. They assure us that he had what they magniloquently call a "palace" in Aberdeen; that he bestowed on the city its first charter; and that he was so specially fond of it as to speak of it as "his own city." These statements, however, are not borne out by any trustworthy evidence, and must be regarded as in a great measure, if not wholly, fabulous.

It is most likely that Aberdeen owed its first charter, if not its origin, to the munificence and enlightened patriotism of David I.; since the oldest charters extant are partly confirmatory of privileges conferred on the citizens by that monarch, but make no reference to earlier marks of royal favour.

The first monarch of whose residence in Aberdeen there is authentic evidence is King William the Lion, grandson of David I. He appears to have resided frequently, either in the city or county, between the years 1179 and 1214. The oldest extant charter of the city was granted by him, and is believed to be of the former date. It is still in good preservation. William appears to have had a house in Aberdeen, which, about 1211, he bestowed on the order of Trinity, Red, or Maturine Friars, whose chief business it was to collect funds for the redemption of Christians held in slavery by the Infidels in Palestine. Of this palace nothing now remains; the site is occupied by the Old Trades Hall. But there is still to be seen in the new Hall a ponderous table, at which tradition says the leonine monarch used to preside. It is a very curious piece of furniture, consisting of a massive slab of artificial stone, smoothly polished, and set in a beautiful oak frame of much later date; the style of the ornaments showing that it belongs to the early part of the 17th century. The framework bears the arms of Dr Guild, who purchased and fitted up the ruins of the monastery as an hospital for decayed burgesses of trade.

Alexander II. appears to have been frequently in Aberdeen between the years 1222 and 1235. Old Wyntoun says that in the former year—

"He held his yule in Abbyrdene."

He, too, is said to have had a palace in the city, which he afterwards bestowed on the Preaching or Black Friars, an order of which he was a great patron. Its site was in what now forms the garden of Gordon's Hospital. The building was destroyed at the period of the Reformation; and not a vestige of it was visible for many years, until latterly its foundations were accidentally discovered. Between 1272 and 1369, Aberdeen was the occasional residence of Alexander III.; John Baliol; Robert the Bruce; and David II. The unfortunate Baliol was taken captive here by John Comyn, laird of Strathbogie, and delivered up to Edward I. of England at Montrose. Edward himself came to Aberdeen on the 14th of July, 1296, and remained in it for five days. On the 17th he received the homage and oath of allegiance of the burgesses and community.

For this act, however, the citizens afterwards made so ample an atonement to "the Bruce," that that illustrious monarch conferred on them many privileges, which are set forth in what is justly called the Great Charter of the Burgh. In some of the battles which he fought, in vindication of his title to the Crown, the citizens of Aberdeen seem to have afforded him signal assistance. We may here mention, incidentally, that the citizens gave undoubted proof of their loyalty and bravery at the battle of Harlaw, July, 1411, when their gallant Provost, Sir (sic) Robert Davidson, and many of the burgesses, were slain in defending the rights of the Crown against the usurper, Donald of the Isles.

In the month of July, 1448, James II. paid his first visit to Aberdeen, when the magistrates made him a "propine" of two tuns of Gascony wine, wax candles, and sweetmeats. His Queen paid a visit in January, 1455, and was presented with 100 merks in money. James IV. visited Aberdeen in 1492, 1495, 1497, 1504, 1507, 1509, when he received "propines" of wine, wax, spiceries, and money. In May, 1511, Aberdeen was visited by his Queen, Margaret, eldest daughter of Henry VII. of England. The occasion was afterwards celebrated in a poem written by Dunbar (who seems to have accompanied the royal party), entitled, "The Queeneis Reception at Aberdein." Great preparations were made to receive her Majesty with suitable pomp and circumstance. Commissioners were appointed to raise money to defray the expenses of the occasion; and the citizens were ordered to decorate the fronts of their houses with arras work, evergreens, and flowers.

It appears from Dunbar's poem that the Queen was met, at some distance from the city by the burgesses, "richelie arrayit, as became thame to be"; four of their number, "men of renoun."

"In gounes of velvet, young, able, and lustie
To beir the pall of velvet cramasie,
Abone her heid, as the custome has bein."

Under this canopy the Queen took her seat, and was borne to the Shiprow Port of the city. Here she was welcomed by another procession, "In cap of gold and silk full pleasantlie," and was treated with a succession of masques and pageants. The first represented the Salutation of the Virgin—

"The sound of monstrallis blawing to the sky."

Then came the pageant of "the Orient Kingis three"; then, the expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise, by an Angel, "with the sword of violence." Lastly, came the Bruce—

" . . . . that ever was bold in stour.
Richt awful, strang, and large of portraitour
As noble, dreadful, michtie champion."

Then followed a procession of "four-and-twenty maidens young," all clad in green, with white hats, and "of marvellous beautie"—

"Playand on timberallis, and singin' richt sweetlie."

In fine—

"At her coming, great was the mirth and joy;
For at the Cross abundantly ran wine;
Unto her lodging the toun did her convoy;
Her for to treat they set their haill ingene;
A rich present they did to her propine,
A costlie cup that large thing would contain,
Covered, and full of coined gold richt fine;
Be blyth and blissful, Brugh of Aberdeen."

The gold in the cup amounted to two hundred pounds.

In 1537, James V. visited the city, and was sumptuously entertained in it for the space of fifteen days. The unfortunate Queen Mary visited Aberdeen about August, 1562, when she was received with every mark of loyalty and attachment. She was also here in the end of October that year, when the Earl of Huntly was defeated by the Earl of Moray, in the battle of Corrichie, fought in one of the glens of the Hill of Fare, in this county. The Gordon chief and many of his followers were slain; and many prisoners were conveyed to Aberdeen, including Huntly's second son, the gallant and handsome Sir John Gordon, for whom the Queen is said to have had at one time a strong attachment. He was beheaded, in Castle Street, on the 2nd of November, to the profound grief of the Queen, who was so situated as not to have the power of saving his life.

James VI. often found a loyal reception and comfortable quarters in Aberdeen between the years 1581 and 1600. On all these occasion he received propines of money, and sometimes levied a needful contribution. On the occasion of his marriage with Anne of Denmark, the citizens fitted out a vessel called the Nicholas (after the patron saint of the city), which was commanded by one of the Baillies, and sailed from Aberdeen, to join the royal squadron bound for Denmark, on the 16th of April, 1589. The vessel was completely armed, and decorated with "ensigns, flags, and streamers of war, red side-cloths, and gilded tops." It would appear that James contemplated a visit in 1617; for the Magistrates received a despatch, recommending "that lodgings be prepared in the most handsome, civil, and courtly manner; with good bedding, well-washed and well-smelled naperie; clear and clean vessels, of sufficient largeness; plenty of provisions and vivres." Suitable preparations were made; but the King came no farther north than Dunnottar Castle. In 1620, one of the citizens, Sir Thomas Menzies, presented to his Majesty a large pearl found in the brook of Kelly, which runs into the Ythan, not far from Haddo House, and which is said to be "the top pearl in the Crown of Scotland." For this gift the King bestowed on Menzies the honour of knighthood.

The next and last Sovereign who visited Aberdeen was the "merry monarch," Charles II. During his first exile, the Scottish Parliament having proclaimed him King of Great Britain, Commissioners, one of whom was Provost Jaffray of Aberdeen, were despatched to

bring him over from the Continent. He embarked under convoy of a Dutch fleet, and landed at Speymouth on Monday, the 4th of July, 1650. After resting at Bog of Gight, now Gordon Castle, he arrived in Aberdeen on the 7th, and took up his residence in a house in Castle Street, which some conceive to have been that which is now called the "Bursars' House." His visit to the city was intimated to the Magistrates in the following letter from the Commissioners, of date 23rd June, 1650—

"Worschipfull and good friends, we have directed thess to let you know that the King is saifie arryved, and intendis, if God permit, to be at Abirdein on Thursday at night; thairfore ye will tack such cair to prowid fit ludgingis for him, and for the Commissioneris, and for the trayne, as may be best haid, on so short advertisements; and we beseik you let nothing be wanting quhich may testifie your effectioun to the native King, quha haith fullie assured all the desyr of his people. No further, but we ar your werie assured freindis.

Cassillis, Lothiane, Brodie, Geo. Wynram, J. Smith, M. Jaffray.

Speymouth, 23rd January, 1650.

"For the Richt Worshipfull the Magistrates of the toun of Abdn. Thess."

On his arrival he was received with every mark of distinction and popular attachment. He conferred the honour of knighthood on the Provost, Furquhar of Mounie; and on Mr Leslie of Eden, who had formerly held that office. The King remained in the town but one night, proceeding next day to Dunnottar. He would appear to have been again in Aberdeen on the 25th of February, 1651—the last time that our city enjoyed the honour of the presence of Royalty. . . .

Richard Birnie.

A worthy native of Banff was Sir Richard Birnie, originally a saddler, who removed to London, where, by his shrewdness, perseverance, promptitude, and pluck, he raised himself to fame and fortune. He was the chief actor in the arrest of Arthur Thistlewood and the Cato Street conspirators on 23rd February, 1820; he read the Riot Act during the Queen Charlotte disturbances when the head magistrate declined the task, and he was appointed the chief functionary at Bow Street. Knighted by the King (George IV. in 1821, he died in 1832, leaving an only son, also named Richard, born in London on 16th January, 1808. It might be imagined that the son of so energetic a man would be a second edition of the sire; but that would have been a very fallacious forecast, for a more careless, happy-go-lucky Bohemian never existed than Sir Richard's son.

He was a barrister-at-law, having been called to the bar in 1833, and obtained the degree of M.A. from Trinity College, Cambridge. Apparently a bright future awaited him. Let this extract from the autobiography of the late E. V. Kenealy, an Irish scholar of the stamp of Maginn and Mahony, and famous as counsel for the Claimant in the Tichborne case, explain a bit of his erratic career:—"He (Birnie) had run through a fortune, and shone amongst the richest at Cambridge University, mixed in the fashionable life of London, had travelled and had seen every species of character from the highest to the lowest, had got into debt, into prison, out of it and back again and finally into a marriage and a garret, where I found him a laughing sage, treating the world and its troubles with scorn, and making a boast of his poverty and a jest of his starvation." That is a photograph of the man, the truth of which cannot be gainsaid.

Birnie got—in 1853—a legal appointment in West Australia, a very primitive place then; and, after a few years there, drifted to Melbourne in 1860. He got a little work at his profession, but ultimately took to lecturing and writing for the press. I came to know him—much against my will—in 1866. I was managing a suburban paper for an impecunious man, whose shifts and struggles were very diverting; but his creditors became clamorous, the red flag of auction was hoisted over the office, and the paper, goodwill, type, and presses were sold to a local brewer named Wild. We printers were accustomed to this climax, and did not care much. I thought that I would get my wages regularly, but instead I got "the bullet."

Amongst the crowd at the auction, I noticed a burly, devil-may-care sort of fellow. It was Birnie. That was the last number I edited. The brewer discarded the name of the old paper altogether, and substituted another in the interests of beer, using the same premises, presses, type etc. Birnie was appointed the new editor, and the first issue of the "Beery Observer," as I may call it, had an amazing lot of verse in it. The next issue had about a column of song by Swinburne, incomplete, but the finish was promised next week. These Swinburnian doses in the brewer's organ caused much grumbling at public-house bars, and I was accosted by a resident—"I say, who's this here Swineborn genus?" I said he was a new poet. "Well," ruminated my querist, "I've tried to read some of his tommyrot, but gave it up. Let me tell you that this here Swineborn don't know when to knock off. Why, his cursed stuff is longer than 'Lord Bateman' [a tedious ballad], and not half so entertaining." I laughed heartily at this naive criticism, which had a real seed of truth in it. Birnie was a constant devotee at the brewery while his billet lasted. "I trow the gauntrees gat a lift" at each visit, as the old song has it.

Meanwhile I secured a situation up-country in a gold-mining township, and when I returned to Melbourne after two years' absence the beery paper had disappeared, the brewer was dead, the old local journal revived, and in the same premises; but Birnie was again treading the tortuous and tormenting mazes of genteel loaferdom and concurrent penury. He wrote essays after the Goldsmithian pattern, and had them printed in the "Australasian." A selec-

tion from them was published in 1879, dedicated to Mr James Smith, a veteran journalist who had befriended him, and a second volume of essays was promised, but it never appeared, as I presume that the printer was not fully paid up for the first.

Birnie was a capital raconteur, and shone in convivial society as a conversationalist, for his experiences amongst all sorts and conditions of men were singular and varied, and luminously told. But he must have been a severe tax on the generosity of the literary men of Melbourne, in much the same fashion as Leigh Hunt was alleged to be—in the abysmal depths of chronic Hardupness. He lacked the necessary application and persistency to become a successful journalist, and this notwithstanding his polyglot learning and felicitous phraseology. He had strong vitality, despite his careless mode of living, for he was 80 years of age when he died in the Melbourne Hospital on 16th September, 1888. I saw his melancholy funeral pass, and it strongly recalled those lines of Thomas Noel:—

"Rattle his bones
Over the stones:
He's only a pauper whom nobody owns."

Alba.

Aberdeenshire Poll-Book Index.

(Continued).

Fraser (Alexander), gentleman, tenment in Ardglassie (Rathen). His wife and sone. (I., 641, 642.)

,, (,,), gentleman in Haattoun (Fraserburgh), tenment to Lord Salton. His wyfe and sone. (II., 90, 92.)

,, (,,), Procurator in Aberdeen. His wife and John and Elizabeth his children. (II., 628.)

,, (Elizabeth), Lady Kinmundy. Valuation of her lands of Kinmundy, Longside (she not residing on the place), £500; her valuation in Aberdour, as Heress of lands of Coburtie (she and her familie residing in the paroch of Longside), £266 13s 4d; and her valuation in Peterhead parish, £150 (she residing in Aberdour parioch). (I., 564, 584; II., 70.)

,, (Mr George), Sub-principal in the King's Colledge. His poll (as a gentleman) in Town of Old Aberdeen. His lady and five children in familia. (II., 594.)

,, (George), in Gairdnerhill (Kildrummy), Chamberlane to the Countess of Marr, and a Commissioner for taking poll in said parish; and Margaret Forbes, his spouse. (I., 496, 500.)

,, (,,), messenger in Aberdeen. No wife nor child. (II., 625.)

,, (John), gentleman in Memsie (Rathen). His wife, sone and daughter. (I., 641, 643.)

Fraser (John), gentleman, deceast, Marjiorie Irving, his relict; in Town of Old Aberdeen. (See Irvine.)

,, (Magdalen), wife of John Leith, gentleman, in Auchlethin (Cruden). (See Leith.)

,, (Mrs Marie), daughter-in-law to the Lord Fraser; in his family (Rathen). See Lord Fraser.

,, (Sophia), wife of William Fraser, gentleman in Pitsligo. (See William Fraser.)

,, (Thomas), of Cairnbulg (a Lord's son). Valuation of his lands of Torhendry (Longside), £100. Margaret Forbes, his spouse, and Margaret, Jean, and Sophia, his children in familia; and the Lady Fraser, duager, living in the familie. (I., 592.)

,, (Walter), a gentleman in Strichen, grand-uncle to the Laird of Strichen. (I., 600.)

,, (William), of Broadland, a Commissioner for taking poll in Crimond. His valuation in said parish, £333 6s 8d. His mother and his sister in familia. (II., 43, 50.)

,, (,,), gentleman in Laird of Inveralochie's family, Rathen. (I., 647.)

,, (,,), gentleman tenment (to Lord Salton) in Pitsligo; and Sophia Fraser, his wife. (II., 87).

,, (,,), merchant in Aberdeen; stock under 5000 merks. His wife and Janat, his daughter. (II., 519.)

,, (,,), of Strichen. His valuation in Strichen, £1700; and for his lands of Easter Tyrie (Tyrie), £320. His family polled in Strichen. Marjorie Fraser, his daughter, and Walter Fraser, gentleman, his grandunele. (I., 600; II., 61.

,, (—), Lady, Wester Tyrie. Her valuation in Tyrie, £520. Her eldest son, John Fraser (his poll, £12 6s); her second sone, James Fraser (his poll 35s); and her daughter, Elizabeth Fraser. (II., 60.)

Frendraught (The Viscount of). The valuation standing under his name in the valuation books of Forgue is 100 merks, which is all lyferented by the Viscount's Duager; except 500 merks reall rent in the Meynes, which the Viscount hath obtained by decreet of the Privie Counsale from of the liferent of the Viscount Daager. The said Viscount has £210 of valuation of Heirs of Thomas Cushney in Forgue, but also liferented by my Lady Duager, and also £50 part of Coudlam, in Forgue, liferented in same manner. (II., 55, 406.)

Frendraught (My Lady Dnager of), liferentrix of £210 (part of the valuation of the Viscount of Frendraught's lands) in Forgue; and (my Lady Dnager of Frendraught) wife of George Morison of Bogny (Forgue), and The Lady Viscountess of Frendraught, pollable in Mayns of Frendraught (Forgue). (II., 392, 405, 407.) See also Morison of Bognie.

Fullarton (Colonel). His relict, The Lady Dudwick polled (at £8) in Ellon parish. Valuation of said lands of Dudwick (Ellon), £303, and valuation of lands of Percock, belonging to his airs (in Deer parish), £235 6s. (I., 631; II., 249, 259.)

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1833.

4th January. Here, Peter M'Combie, Esq., of Lynturk, merchant, Aberdeen [aged 66].

11th January. At Kintore Manse, Rev. John Shand, minister of that parish, in his 79th year.

16th January. At Rathven Manse in her 25th year, Mrs Jane Reid, wife of Rev. James Gardiner.

15th January. At Keith, Mr Alexander Cowie, solicitor there.

21st January. At Croydon, Surrey, John Dingwall, Esq. of Brucklay, in his 63rd year.

27th January. At Tiverton, Devonshire, Mrs Harvey, late of Broadland.

1st February. At Keith, Mr Robert Gordon. For his venerable age, he might have been called the patriarch of his native town, having lived to see it arrive at its present extent, although it was only begun when he was in his eleventh year. The duration of his pilgrimage was 89 years 11 months.

27th February. At the Manse, Kintore, Mrs Margaret Dauney, widow of Rev. John Shand, late minister of Kintore, in her 70th year.

2nd March. At Dee Street, Aberdeen, Agnes Duncan relict of James Morgan Esq. of Bonnymuir.

9th March. At Johnshaven, Mr Alexander Fullerton, upwards of 90 years of age. He was 57 years tenant of Knox of Benholm, and once possessed upwards of £12,000; but such are the reverses of life, that, for some years past, he had been entirely supported by the bounty of his friends.

1st April. Here, Miss Eliza Gordon, daughter of the late James Gordon, Esq. of Littlefolla.

4th April. Here, Mrs Paterson, relict of Rev. W. Paterson, minister of Logie-Buchan.

17th April. At Old Aberdeen [date not stated], Mr Adam Stables, Convener of the Incorporated Trades of that city, aged 66.

12th May. At Huntly, Rev. Alexander Smith, late Minister of Keig.

15th May. At Old Aberdeen, Mr Gilbert M'Donald, Apothecary and General Practitioner in Medicine. . . .

17th May. At Haughs of Benholm, Rebecca Malcolm, widow of George Grieve, aged above 99. She has left 4 sons and 3 daughters, and by them 49 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

29th May. At Banff, Dr John Milne, third son of John Milne, Esq., Mill of Boyndie. [Aged 25, and death occasioned by fall from a horse.]

26th May. At the Manse, Chapel of Garioch, Rev. Gordon Forbes.

1st June. At Stonehaven, Jane, wife of Hugh Fullerton, Sheriff-Substitute.

2nd June. At Manse of Forgue, by an instantaneous stroke of apoplexy, Rev. Alexander Allardyce, in his 57th year.

13th June. At Edinburgh, Rev. James Andrew, LL.D. and F.R.S. (a native of Aberdeen), late Principal of the H.E.I. Company's Military Seminary at Addiscombe, in his 60th year.

14th June. At Fyvie, John Chalmers, Esq., Surgeon, aged 34.

14th July. Here, Dr Alexander Dauney, aged 84, for many years Professor of Civil Law in King's College.

13th August. Here, Dr George French, Physician in Aberdeen and Professor of Chemistry in Marischal College, in his 82nd year.

27th August. Here, Mrs Jane Grant, relict of Rev. Francis Grant, Minister of Knockando.

26th September. At Aberdeen, William Black, Esq., aged 73.

23rd September. At Paris, Francis Stewart, Esq., W.S., son of the late Major-General Francis Stewart of Lesmurdie.

9th October. At Edinburgh, aged 70, John Ferguson, Esq., son of [James Ferguson], the celebrated astronomer. He was born at London. His father was born at Rothiemay in April, 1710.

6th November. At Fetteresso Castle, Mrs Abercromby Duff of Fetteresso and Glassaugh.

8th November. At Eggie, Belhelvie, John Lumsden, Esq., farmer there. . . .

11th November. At Ballogie, Rev. Henry Innes, Roman Catholic Priest, in his 81st year.

7th December. Here, Miss Margaret Forbes, daughter of the late Rev. William Forbes of Fordoun, and granddaughter of the late Thomas Forbes of Thornton Castle.

10th December. At Bin-Rock, near Dundee, Captain Skene, R.N., C.B., of Lethenty, aged 62.

4th December. At Fingask, Duncan Fraser, Esq. of Fingask.

15th December. At Coldstone, Rev. Andrew Towse, Minister of that parish.

19th December. At Bellfield, Banchory-Ternan, Mr William Shaw, aged 74.

29th December. At Lochhead Cottage, near Aberdeen, Mrs Margaret Forbes [daughter of George Forbes, coppersmith, Aberdeen], widow of Rev. Alexander Urquhart, Minister of Tough, aged 43.

Queries.

407. Taylor's Map of Aberdeen, 1773.—Where could I procure, or see, a copy of Taylor's map? Is it attached to any published work, as Paterson's map is to Robbie's "History of Aberdeen"?

M. H. M.

408. Nellfield House, Aberdeen.—Has any photograph, sketch, or engraving of Nellfield House been preserved? What is known of Mr Cochran and Mr Martin, who owned Nellfield? Who succeeded the latter as proprietor, and who was the person Nellfield was actually named after?

M. H. M.

409. William Abernethy of Crimonmogate.—Mr Abernethy had a son Thomas, who became a colonel and died somewhere in England about the middle of the last century. Can any reader oblige with the name of the place and date of death?

A. B.

410. Barony of Strachan.—Can any reader furnish me with particulars of the lands formerly embraced in the barony of Strachan?

A. B.

411. Latin Booklet.—Would anyone possessing a copy of the late Mr Alexander's booklet on "Latin Roots, Prefixes and Affixes," please communicate with editor, "N. and Q."? Mr Alexander was for many years Leadmaster of the Town's Schools, Little Belmont Street.

B.

412. Copland Portraits.—I am desirous of hearing from anyone possessing any portrait of members of the family of Copland connected with the city and county of Aberdeen between 1700 and 1850.

B.

Answers.

374. The Durwards, Barons of Coull.—The late Mr William Watt, in his "Aberdeen and Banff" (County Histories of Scotland), explains that the first Aberdeenshire Durward was Thomas, the Doorward who, having married Orabilis, daughter of Gilchrist, sometime Earl of Mar, succeeded to the extensive property held by Gilchrist. The Castle of Coull and the Peel of Lumphanan, two of the Durward strongholds, probably date from the time of this Thomas Durward, who was succeeded by his famous son, Alan Durward, sometime Earl of Athole. For particulars as to the numerous benefactions by the family, see p. 41 of the work quoted.

H.

385. Idill or Yidill Surname.—This surname occurs twice in Munro's "Records of Old Aberdeen," and it applies to ten persons dealt with in Littlejohn's "Sheriff Court Records" (both works published by the New Spalding Club). In several instances, the name has been altered to that of Yule.

H.

391. Patronage of Parish Churches.—King's College sold its patronages as under—

Date.	Patronages.	Purchasers.	Price.
1764.	Methlic.	Earl of Aberdeen ..	£2400
1766.	Slains and Forvie.	Earl of Errol	3312
	Newhills.	Mr Paton	3500
	Old Machar 1st.	Earl of Fife	2400
	Marykirk.		2400
1767.	Glenmuick and Abergardyn.	Earl of Aboyne	1800
1769.	Old Machar 2nd. New Machar Auchindoir Tullynessle	Earl of Fife	7800
			£23,412

P. J. Anderson.

University Library.

435. Rev. John Grant, Abernethy.—Rev. John Grant died 21st January, 1820. He is commemorated in a tablet inscription at Duthil.

R. Y.

No. 93.—January 26, 1910.

Aberdeenshire Folk Lore.

In the "Celtic Review" for April, 1908, is a paper by Mr David M'Ritchie, "Stories of the Mound Dwellers," in which he cites a Galloway myth of the fairy woman reproving a cottager for throwing foul water into her dwelling, and also gives Welsh and Scandinavian variants of the same legend. I heard an Aberdeenshire version some 30 years back from old Mrs S. Rae, who sojourned, when a girl, in a clachan in the south-west corner of Aberdeenshire, where it borders with Forfarshire. She heard an aged crone relate the story as a veritable fact, and never forgot it. It was to this effect—

A young shepherd brought his bride to a shieling at the head of the glen (near to which Mrs Rae was residing at the time) which he had erected for their home, and one day the young wife was alarmed at a visit in that solitary place being made by an imperious little lady dressed in bright green, having a long wand or branch in her hand, with which she "duntit" on the floor three times, shrilly remarking—"A'm sayin', mistress, ye maunna throw yer foul watter my gate ony mair; I winna thole't ony langer, for ye're makin' a jaw-hole o' ma best chammer in below the grun', blaudin' ilka thing, forbye pittin' oot ma bit spunk o' fire. Throw yer foul watter anither airt—dae ye hear me? [mair duntin']. I gie ye advisement evenoo—gin ye dinna stop it, ye sall sairly rue it." The affrighted woman promised compliance with the strange creature's request, and the fairy disappeared. But during the woman's confinement she was attended by a "thochtless tawpie," a "glaikit gilpy," who pitched the slops into the interdicted place. The result was disastrous, for the shieling mysteriously took fire, and was consumed, the mother and her babe being saved with difficulty. This was construed to be the punishment for disobedience of the fairy's injunctions. A new cottage was subsequently constructed in a different part of the glen, away from the jurisdiction of the fairy folk, in which the shepherd and his wife lived peacefully and contentedly ever after.

Another story acquired by Mrs Rae when living near the glen was "The Fairy Money," in which a young girl was rewarded (for keeping her room clean) with a new groat every morning, but was cautioned not to divulge where she got the money, else serious consequences would ensue. She was pressed to tell, and her explanation was considered evasive; but at night she was terribly pinched by the angry fays, and her hoard of coins changed into bits of stone. I thought so highly of this legend that I turned it into verse, making a ballad of it after the model of the Ettrick Shepherd. I subjoin a copy of it.

Mrs Rae spent several years in Peterhead, and was married there. She knew Peter Buchan, and could recite many of the ballads preserved by that industrious collector. She said she had often visited the ruins of Inverugie Castle, a former residence of the Earls Marischal, and she narrated a weird tradition thereanent, which she had heard. Shortly after the castle was built a great magician of that period visited the earl, who was holding high wassail, and he remained overnight. In the morning the magician mounted his horse, and the earl came to the gate to bid him farewell. Rising in his stirrups, the wizard placed his hand on the lintel of the gateway or some prominent part of the building, and impressively said ere he rode away:

"When this stane to yird sall fa',
The name o' Keith sall wear awa'."

The doughty baron thought little of the warlock's prophecy, but his retainers heard it also, and the distich was implicitly received and repeated as an article of faith. So generation succeeded generation, and century followed century; the Keiths were proscribed for their loyalty; the old castle then became ruinous and was uninhabited for a long time. Then the process of decay and demolition began, and eventually the fateful stone fell, and shortly after tidings came to Scotland that the last Earl Marischal had died in Germany, leaving no successor. The prediction was fulfilled, and oblivion shrouded in her pall the erstwhile puissant race of the Keiths for ever.

Mrs Rae's life history is interesting. Her husband (Alexander Rae) was a ship carpenter, and they lived in Yeats Lane, near the Canal, having three sons and one daughter. They attended Dr Longmuir's church in Commerce Street, and their pew was adjacent to ours. I was intimate with the younger boys. The girl, Jane Rae, was married to William Lyon, an elocutionist of some fame amongst young Aberdonians of half a century ago or more. Many a time, when a mere 'prentice boy, have I heard my elder brother and Willie Lyon declaiming the dialogues of Brutus and Cassius and Norval and Glenalvon, and surely there ought to be some old-timers in the town yet who remember the "Red Lion," as he was called from his ruddy complexion, red hair, and red beard. He was somewhat convivial, and during a carouse, he rashly enlisted, and was drafted off to India, where both he and his wife died. Their only child, a little girl, whom I remember as a babe on its mother's lap, was left to the care of the grandmother, and brought up by her. All the sons emigrated, the eldest to Melbourne, the next, James (a boyish chum of mine), to New Zealand, and John (also a carpenter) to Tasmania. Old Sandy Rae died, and Mrs Rae and her grandchild emigrated to Tasmania, living there for some time until her son John died, as the result of an accident. They removed

then to Melbourne, and lived with her eldest son, Captain Robert Rae. Neither my mother nor I knew anything of her movements and wanderings: we learnt afterwards.

One evening, when visiting a friend, I was introduced as an Aberdonian to a bright, eager, impulsive girl, who was the "Red Lion's" daughter. She had a mass of auburn hair, and forcibly reminded me of her deceased father—but not then, as she concealed her identity, and requested my friend not to disclose it. She plied me with questions concerning our family, and where I lived, and then said abruptly, as she left, that she would give me a surprise party soon. She did so the following evening, when she brought her grandmother to our house. It was indeed a great surprise, for mother had bidden Mrs Rae good-bye at the familiar church door in 1863, ere we sailed for Australia, and none of the old ladies ever expected to see each other again in this life. But such meetings do happen in a new colony—although not always so artfully arranged. Mrs Rae frequently visited us afterwards, and nothing delighted me more than to listen to her stories, songs, and anecdotes of old departed days, for, although feeble in body, her mind was strong and her memory saturated and loaded with the traditionary lore of the past. I regret that I did not preserve more of her legendary stories. I invariably escorted her home to Captain Rae's house.

Her son James arrived from New Zealand, anxious once more to see his mother; he had been in the Maori War and was severely wounded. He came to see us, a gaunt, haggard, and care-worn man. I could not recognise him, and stared doubtfully at him. Could this be the handsome high-spirited lad I once knew? At last I said—"Are you Jamie Rae?" "Ay," said he, coldly, "a' that's left o' him." I continued—"The same Jamie Rae that was in the Sailors' Kirk Sunday School wi' me?" "The verra same," he responded. "Man, Jamie," I remarked, "they widna ken ye in Fittie noo." "Maybe no," he replied, "nor you either, for it's mair than twenty year since I saw you last, an' that mak's a hantle o' difference. Gin you had come through the hardships an' sufferin's I endured in the time o' the war, possibly you widna be here ava' to speak o't"—a tactful periphrasis that I would have gone under during the ordeal. Perhaps he was right. Our conversation was brief, for he was on his way to the steamer to return to New Zealand. He died there two months later on, and Mrs Rae did not long survive: she died in 1876, aged 88, or possibly older. I was at the funeral.

Her grandchild, Mary Lyon, had a tragical end. She married an Aberdonian skipper, Captain Youngson, who visited occasionally her uncle, Captain Rae, as they were "townies," and she became engaged. Captain Youngson was in the China trade, bringing tea to Melbourne, and Mary, with a baby, accompanied him one trip, but she never returned. The vessel encountered one of those terrific typhoons so prevalent in the Eastern seas, and it is conjectured that the ship foundered, and every soul on board perished. The vessel was never heard of again. Such was the sad fate of poor Mary Lyon. They are all gone now.

Thomas L. Work.

Melbourne, Australia.

THE FAERIE MONEY.

AN OLD ABERDEENSHIRE LEGEND.

(Versified from the recitation of the late Mrs S. Rae, who died about 1876, aged 88.)

Young Effie, the daintiest may in the strath,
She lived in a dwallin' awa' frae the path,
An auld stately tower i' the Howe o' Glendhu,
Wi' pine trees secludin' its gavel frae view.
A bonnie green knowe lay ayont the ha'-door,
A burnie ran brattlin' awa' to the moor;
An' a bulwark o' mountains, their taps skymed wi' snaw,
Keepit sentinel gaird ower the glen and its ha'.

Now, Effie was only an innocent bairn,
But her father an' brithers were warriors stern;
Sae they watch'd ower the lassie, an' fendit her mair,
As she scrimply had kent o' a fond mither's care.
Her bed-room was heich, but was cosie an' bien,
The roun'-backit knowe frae her winnock was seen,
An' aften afore the weird onta' o' nicht,
She wad stand an' glower oot at an eeriesome sicht;
For in munelicht its blink to the bairn wad assume
A luminous track frae the knowe till her room.
Wee riders wad race on the pallid munebeams,
An' there wad be singin' like trinkland o' streams,
An' glents wad be gleamin' an flichterin' around,
Forbye tootin' o' horns wi' a far-awa' sound.
But she said her guid-wordies, an' gaed till her sleep,
Syne slumber wad fa' on her heavy an' deep.

She dreamt that her chaumer was buskit fu' gay
By a troop o' gleg totums in gallant array.
Prinkit oot in green claes, an' a' schinand wi' gowd,
Sae tosh an' perjink was the freliesome crowd.
While mantles o' scarlet an' purpour plaids
Enfauldit the limbs o the faerie maids.
And they'd sit doon and birr at her spinnin'-wheel,
While some wintled awa' in ane elfin reel;
For the pipin' was eydent, sae snacky and slee,
Like the resonant hum o' ane fordersum bee.
Their strummin' an' fykerie was seilfu' to see,
Nae tongue could descryve a' their daffin' an' glee.

But ae luvely leddy, the Queen o' the core,
Precelland the lave in her beauty and glore,
Sat laigh on the bed-side and straikit her hair,
An' croon't to the maiden this rauklelave fair -
"Effie! dear Effie, ye'll sweep the room clean:
Mind, keep it as braw as a new waddin' preen,
For we downa thole ony stourie neuks o't,
An' ye'll aye get yer fairin'—a nice new groat!
There's nae ither may sic a tocher will ha'e;
But dinna lat on whaur yer siller comes frae,
For gin ye sud tell, sair, sair will we rue,
Me an' my menzie, as weel as you!"

Sae in daffin' and dancin' the nicht row'd bye,
An' she waukent in peace as the sun lit the sky.
Syne she reddit her room, an' she sweepit it clean,
An' keepit it snodly an' fit to be seen;
An' ilka mornin' she fand a new groat,
Until a guid earn o' sic gear she had got.

But a packman cam' intill the hoose ae day,
Wi' ribbons an' rings in distractin' array,
An he temptit the lassie some siller to wair
On a genty bit snood for her gowden hair.
She gruppit a groat frae her goblin pose,
An' coft a bricht ribbon as reid as a rose.
It glancit sae sweetly, an' set her richt weel,
She was prood o' her troke wi' the pedlar chiel.

Yet Fergus, her brither, he ferlied sair
How Effie could ha'e ony siller to wair,
An' syne, as he dowdled her on till his knee,
Richt sickerly speir'd whaur her siller could be?
Then the sackless bit lassie she tauld him a',
An' she mintit her dreid for tellin' ava;
But he banish'd it aff wi' ane hearty guffaw.
"Ah, Effie! ye're like a' the lave," quo' he,
"Ye ken yer ain ken—ye're deceivin' me;
But, mind ye, tak' tent, my sonsie wee lass,
Or skaithless sic neebors will no' lat ye pass."

Ah! little she trow'd when gaun till her bed
The import deep o' the words he had said.
The nicht was mirk, there was wind an' rain,
A pine-branch duntit her winnock-pane,
The fire-flaught spang'd frae the lift aboon,
An' the burnie rush'd bickerin' bauldly doon—
Ane nicht uncannie appeirand to be.
When teynefu' sprites ha'e the maisterie.

Then a deevilish dirdum raise, fleggin' the child,
O' fays an' o' elvies garmunschach an' wild,
A grim an' a gruesome rabble indeed,
Gane gyte wi' the passionate furich o' feid.
Gloomin, an' girnand an' greetin' were they,
Their eyne glitter'd eerilie roun' whaur she lay,
Nyatterin' an' skirlin' in wud tirrivee,
Sic camshauchled ablachs were ugsome to see.
They ruggit her ringlets, they birsit her broo,
An' they nippit her bodie brith black an' blue!

Loud an' lang did the maiden scream,
As she waukent out o' her fear ane dream.
Her father ran ben an' her brethren three,
Wi' bleezand torches, yet naething they see;
Claymore in hand, they search around,
But their quest was vain, for nocht they found
They heard but the hiss o' the rain outside,
Only the gurl o' the burn in its pride,
An' the wail o' the trees as they warsled in pain,
Yet this angry sough sinks intill her brain -

"Ye'll get nae mair groats frae the faerie train!
Fareweel to our howff an' the flowerie brae—
The hamely Tomaun we luvit oh, wae!
Oh, Clypie! this nicht ye sall dearly rue:
We maun flit! we maun flit! an' it's a' thro' you!
Ye've broken yer paction, we trauchle frae here,
Whaur blythely we wonn'd for mony a year.
Fareweel! fareweel to oor biggin' sae braw!
We ha'e gotten oor leave—we maun up an' awa'!"

When mornin' cam', Effie was shakin' a' sair,
An' aye as she thocht on't she sabbit the mair;
Dulvert an' dowie, at the last she arose
To ha'e a bit keek at her elfin pose;
But her nacket o' siller—the groats—was awa',
Only bitties o' sklaties an' steenies she saw!
An' her fine rosy snood was tint, it was ta'en,
For a dow'd dockan-blade in its place was seen!

Then she pined, an' she dwined bot help or remeid,
And at Yule i' the gloamin' young Effie lay deid!
Weel, sae was it spae'd, and a warnin' sud be
For the thrawart quha meil wi' the fause faerie.

THOS. L. WORK.

Pryse Lockhart Gordon's "Personal Memoirs" Expurgated.

Few people, I imagine, are aware that this chatty book was not published as written. The fact transpires in the will of his son, George Huntly Gordon, Scott's amanuensis, who died in London on December 26, 1868. He bequeaths his copy of the "Memoirs" to his son, Huntly Pryse Gordon, together with some "suppressed" pages, including "powerful satire on General Gordon of Fyvie," concerning whose regiment, the 81st Aberdeenshire Highlanders, the "Banffshire Herald," Keith, is now publishing an account, containing most interesting letters from the Duke of Gordon never printed before. I have run to earth this "suppressed" copy of the "Memoirs."

J. M. B.

Admiral Norwich Duff.

The Admiral, grandson of Alexander Duff of Hatton (see Temple's "Fermartyn," page 131-2), is seen to great advantage in a picture by Sir Henry Raeburn, now being shown at the Exhibition of Old Masters at the Royal Academy. It is a half-length, the Admiral being seated to the left, looking at the spectator; he is bareheaded, in uniform, his right hand holds his hat and his left rests on the hilt of his sword—brown background. Painted 1822. Canvas, 34½ by 27 inches. It is lent by Mr E. Alexander Duff.

Lady William Gordon.

A beautiful portrait of this lady by Sir Joshua Reynolds is one of the features in the Exhibition of Old Masters now at the Royal Academy. It is a full face bust. She is wearing a black dress, cut low, and she has her hair dressed high, and powdered in the most effective manner. The portrait is painted in an oval, and the canvas is 29 by 24½ inches. The picture is lent by the Hon. Edward Wood (the heir of Lord Halifax), who also lends a portrait by Reynolds of her sister, Isabella Ann, Marchioness of Hertford.

Simeon Grahame.

(Scottish Notes and Queries," 2nd S., VIII., 68.)

On consulting Dempster's posthumous book on Scottish Saints and Writers, I perceive that the date of Grahame's death is recorded in Roman numerals—"MDCXIV." I think that an X has been omitted in transcription, either by the editor or printer—for the work teems with errors—and that 1624 would be the probable date of Simeon's death. This is only a surmise, but it would admit of Lithgow's farewell interview and subsequent spree in 1616.

I am likewise of opinion that a translation of the lives of the Scottish writers only in Dempster's compilation, with notes and emendations, suppressing those of the questionable saints, who have all been claimed (most unfairly) to be Irish, and who form a great proportion of the two volumes, would be a capital task for a young Scottish student. If Mr Andrew Carnegie allotted a sum of money for the dissemination of early Scottish literature, it would be well spent on a work of this kind, for if anyone attempts nowadays to enlighten us about the pioneers of our literature, he does so at the risk of positive loss. It is useless to expect Government assistance; the Government only aids the southern portion of Britain—"the fat soo is aye weel creesh'd"—and the junior partner is invariably treated with contumelious neglect. Mr Carnegie would earn thereby the undying gratitude of all patriotic Scots, not the least of whom is the humble and industrious antiquary.

Alba.

Ship-Wrecking.

In 1636 it was complained to the Privy Council by Gilbert Harvie, younger, burgess of Aberdeen, for himself and as acting for George Gordoun, Alexander Gordoun, Patrick Moir, and Alexander Shand, burgesses of Aberdeen, as follows:—Being lately in the town of Campvere, and finding there a barque belonging to Dundee, they freighted it for bringing home to Aberdeen certain goods they had bought in Holland and Zealand. Having laden her and embarked, as they were nearing Scotland, and had reached Thornton Loche within four miles of Dunbar, on 27th January last, "the barke wes there overtane with a most feirfull and violent sterme of weit and wind, so as the mariners and equippage of the ship stryveing with manie difficulties and with painefull labour and travells were in end constrayned for lyfie and death to runne thair barke ashore, quhare she brake, bot the companie and equippage of the ship by God's providence were preserved, and there was verie great possibilitie that the haill leadning might have beene recovered if the barbarous and inhumane crueltie of the countrey people had not stopped the same; who perceaving the danger the barke was in, and the appeirance that she wes lyke to be wracke, a great number of people [here the names of 37 men and women are given] conveened thameselvis furnished with horse, cairts, sleds, and all other things necessar for carieing and takeing away of goods, came to the said barke, cutted the syde of her with axes and other instruments, so as the haill peis being within the barke runne out at the holes quhilk they made; and then they all concurring togiddler, most inhumanlie and barbarouslie, without pitie or compassion of the complianers' distresse, intromettted with the haill waires in the said barke, to wit—Ten last of whyt peis, thre lasts and ane haife of soape, foure great pypes and thrie punsheons of alme, ane ball of maider, thrie balls of Gallis, tuentie hundredth pund weicht of sugar and nyne punsheons ten tries of whyt stiffin, tuentie tries of rasins of the sunne, thrie trees of fegs, thrie punsheons of corse rasins, ten kinkens of powlder, tua trees of brunstane, ane thousand pund weicht of tobacco, seven barrell pypes, four kinkens of indigo, foure hundredth punds of pepper, fifrie pund of cannell, threttene punds of meses; fyftene punds of safiron, twentie punds of nutmegs, ane thousand pund of red brisell, ten peece of Holland cloth, threttie-six punds of silk, ane steik of Spanis taffetie, three trees of capresse, ane packet of pauns, foure houndredth punds of powlder, vessel and stoups; item sex hundredth and fiftie merks of reddie gold and silver being in a purse, with the haill abulzeament and clothing perteaning to the companie and equippage of the ship, and they sauld and disponed upon the same to the country people at thair pleasure.

The charge having been duly served on the wreckers, and they not compearing, were ordered to be put to the horn and escheated.

Compulsory Buying of Bibles.

The first Bible printed in Scotland was issued complete in 1579. In the same year, by Act of Parliament, every gentleman, householder, and others "worth thrie hundreth merkis of yeirlie rent or abone," and every yeoman and burgess with five hundred pounds had to provide, under a penalty of ten pounds, 'a bible and psalme buke in vulgare language in thair houssis for the better instructioun of thame selffis and thair famelijs in the knawledge of God." And to see that this was carried into effect, the following year a searcher was appointed with power to visit the houses of those signified by the Act, "and to require the sicht of thair Psalme Baikis and Bybillis." The Privy Council had in 1575 commanded and charged "the principallis and Heidismen of euery parochin alsweill to Burgh as Landwart" to contribute and collect five pounds for the purchase of a Bible to be placed in every parish kirk.—From "A History of Secondary Education in Scotland (from Early Times to 1908)." By John Strong, M.A., Rector of the Montrose Academy.

Peculiar Death Intimation.

At Horseley, Co. Derby, at the astonishing age of 107, Mrs Frances Barton. She followed midwifery upwards of 80 years. It is said she well remembered the Revolution in 1688, and that she danced at a merry-making on that glorious occasion. Her husband had been sexton of the Parish Church 70 years: and this ancient pair frequently boasted that she had brought into the world, and he had buried, the parish twice over.—"Gentleman's Magazine," January, 1790.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1834.

7th January. At New Pitsligo, Rev. Forbes Rennie, Parochial Teacher there.

13th January. Here, Thomas Rennie, builder, aged 63.

11th January. At Logierieve, Udny, Mrs Ligertwood, in her 78th year.

18th January. At Huntly, Rev. Dr George Minty, Minister of Kennethmont, in his 80th year.

24th January. At Edinburgh, Archibald Cumine, Esq. of Auchry, in his 81st year.

16th February. Here, Rev. Dr George Forbes of Belhack and Inverernan.

3rd March. Rev. William Paul, Professor of Natural Philosophy in King's College.

3rd March. At Spring-Garden, Alexander Dingwall, jun., Esq., Postmaster.

26th February. Mrs Margaret Kyle, late of Bughill.

2nd March. At Fawsyde, Jean, daughter of Dr Young.

11th March. At Straloch, Mrs [Christian Susan Forbes] Innes, widow of Alexander Innes, Esq. of Pitmedden.

26th March. At the Manse, Pitsligo, Rev Alexander Farquhar, Minister of that parish.

31st March. At Manse of Culsalmond, Mrs [Catherine Dann] Ellis, wife of Rev. F. Ellis, minister of that parish.

22nd March. At Fetteresso Castle, Robert William Duff, Esq., of Fetteresso, Vice-Lieutenant and Convener of the County of Kincardine.

25th March. At Mintlaw, Mr Charles Farquhar, schoolmaster, in his 28th year. He was a probationer of the Church of Scotland.

25th March. At the Parsonage, Old Deer, Rev. Ralph Walker Anderson, Minister of the Episcopal Chapel there [in his 28th year].

20th April. At Argyle House, London, Lady Frances Gordon, only daughter of the Right Hon. the Earl of Aberdeen. Lady Frances was only taken seriously ill about ten days ago. She died of consumption, to which dreadful malady her sister Lady Alicia Gordon, and the late Countess fell victims some short time ago.

21st April. At Arthurseat, in his 89th year, Arthur Dingwall Fordyce of Culsh., LL.D., and late Commissary of Aberdeen.

29th March. Robert Morice, Advocate, Aberdeen, in his 59th year.

11th April. John Angus of Tillicoultie, aged 81.

9th May. At the Grove, James Lumsden, Esq., late of Jamaica, in his 64th year.

5th May. At 64 Bon-Accord Street, John Gordon, youngest son of James Giles, Esq., R.S.A.

17th May. At Tonley, Miss Agnes Burnett, aged 73, daughter of the late James Burnett, Esq., merchant, Aberdeen, and the last surviving child of a family of 19.

24th May. Here, William Greenlaw, aged 90, who was crowned King of the Travelling Merchants, at Kirkwall, 13th August, 1830.

29th May. Mr William Sim, Brewer, Hardgate, aged 37.

24th May. At Manse of Towie, in her 30th year, Mrs Isabella Smith, wife of Rev. Adam Smith, minister of that parish.

6th June. Here, Mrs Margaret Ann Mitchell, relict of John Robert Smith of Concraig.

18th June. Mrs Mary Robertson, widow of Rev. Alexander Robertson, Coull, aged 71.

11th June. At Cotton, aged 93, Margaret Ross, third daughter of the late Alexander Ross, schoolmaster at Lochlee [author of "Helenore, or the Fortunate Shepherdess," and other poems].

27th June. James Robertson, late Guard of the North Defiance Coach.

4th July. At Lochhead, Skene, Mr James Troup, aged 90, son of the late Rev. John Troup, Episcopal Clergyman at Muchalls.

11th July. At Manar House, Hugh Gordon, Esq. of Manar, aged 63.

31st July. Mr Thomas Duguid, Brewer, Hardgate, aged 32.

2nd August. At Edinburgh, John Turner, Esq. of Turnerhall.

14th August. At Burnside, near Fochabers, Adam Gordon, Esq. of Newton-Garrie.

5th September. At Lessendrum, the Right Rev. Dr William Bisset, Lord Bishop of Raphoe.

28th September. At Arnage, William Ross, M.D., third son of John Leith Ross of Arnage, in his 21st year.

30th October. At Dundee, Alexander Mitchell, Esq., Cashier of the Aberdeen Town and County Bank.

1st November. At Craigellie, Miss Helen Shand, eldest daughter of the late William Shand, Esq. of Craigellie [aged 66].

4th November. At Aberdeen, Mrs Jane Farquhar, relict of the late John Davidson, Esq of Kebbaty, aged 69.

8th November. At Mountblairy House, Theodore Morison, Esq. of Bognie, aged 80.

13th November. At Stonehaven, Rev. George Garden, Episcopal Minister, in his 71st year.

15th November. At Peterhead, Mrs Cordiner, widow of Rev. Charles Cordiner, Minister of St Andrew's Chapel, Banff, in her 86th year.

16th November. Alexander Ligertwood, Esq. of Logierieve, in his 77th year.

22nd December. At Moneykebbock, William Harvey, farmer there, aged 82.

Queries.

413. William Barclay, Solicitor, Banff.—Mr Barclay was married to a Miss Macdonald. Who was she, and when and where did the marriage take place?

A. B.

414. Blin' Willie Hogg.—Amongst the street musicians of Aberdeen during the first quarter of last century, and probably later on, was one named William Hogg, who sung as well as played. He was the precursor of Jamie Melvin and Davie Frost, whom I have often listened to. Imlah in his long rambling poem "Drumnagarrow," published 1841, alludes to Willie thus—

How aft it was my wont to jog
Amid thy train, Blin' Willie Hogg,
When "Cockabendie" was in vogue
An' "Sack'd the Siller."
Or Dron's buid-shoulder'd, brawny rogue,
"The Dusty Miller."

Then, Willie, ye your sweet voice lent
To your us sweet accompaniment,
O' the poor stranger maid that wan
Too far frae home:
I hope maids will tak' better tent
In days to come.

Art thou in being still? and he,
The Turkey merchant, wont to be
Fidus Achates unto thee—
A blin'-e'ed brither?
Wha heard delights he couldna see
As weel's anither.

What feeling did yer friendship bind?
'Twas fellow-feeling made ye kind,
For as the barth o' ye were blind
As a stane wa',
Nae faults wi' ither could ye find
Ye never saw.

"The Turkey Merchant!" Surely that is our familiar Turkey Willie? He was (and blind, at any rate.

Mr Imlah has a note, which I subjoin—"Willie Hogg for many years held on the tenor of his way through the streets of Aberdeen, and was well known and attended in his musical peregrinations. 'Calder Fair,' 'The Miller o' Dron,' 'I'm a poor stranger and far from my home,' 'Hearts of Oak,' etc., were wont to be his favourite ditties, and his entertainments were frequently vocal and instrumental. His voice and its violin accompaniment were guiltless of committing any inharmonious combination, for they melodiously went note for note the same." Perhaps Mr George Allan, advocate, a gentleman who has occasionally honoured me with a letter, could clear up any doubts concerning this street Orpheus, and fix the date of his final exit, for there are few in Aberdeen now who possess such intimate knowledge of its vanished past and of the grotesque denizens it once sheltered.

Alba.

415. Mannofield Market.—When were markets started at Mannofield, and when did they cease? It is notified in August, 1840, that "Mr Torrie of Mannofield, with a view to encourage graziers in bringing our good stock, is to give prizes for the best milk cows not exceeding five years old, and that he also purposes to give premiums for trotting ponies."

A. B.

Answers.

390. CATERLINE. — The Statistical Account of Kincardineshire states—"It was in 1709 that the parish of Caterline was united to that of Kinneff—an addition of 300 merks being made to the living." Jervise also states the date of annexation as 1709. ("Memorials," II., p. 242.)

It is difficult to accept the explanation in "A. B.'s" answer, 5th January, 1910, "On Kinneff becoming vacant in 1699, Caterline is believed to have been reunited to it," as the family of Honeyman are stated to have been ministers of the parish from 1663 to 1781—sons succeeding to fathers without interruption for 118 years. The call of Rev. Andrew Honeyman is dated 19th March, 1693, but the ordination appears not to have taken place until 1702.

R. T. M.

395. DEESIDE SONG.—In "Scottish Notes and Queries," IV., p. 119, under query 472, Rev. George Williams, Thornhill, Stirling, quoted five verses of the old Deeside song or ballad "The Haughies o' Indego," thus—

1. 'Twas on a Halloweven's day,
The play begood aboot the sky,
They took a wallop thro' the ley
'Po' the haughies o' Indego.

2. The Farquharsons were plenty there,
The Frasers flocked frae everywhere,
The Gordons brave they had their share
'Po' the haughies o' Indego.

3. The laird o' Echt and Piper Skene
Danced baith bare-headed 'neath the meen,
An' lads an' lasses on the green
'Po' the haughies o' Indego.

4. A greater woe there did betide,
Miss Catherine Gordon was a bride,
The laird o' Skene lay by her side,
'Po' the haughies o' Indego.

5. Some ran aff to the Isle o' Skye,
Some wanna by the Brig o' Dye;
The laird he had to France to fly
Frae the haughies o' Indego.

ED.

397. SIR CHARLES GORDON.—He was the (natural?) son of William Gordon IV. in Minmore, and became an S.S.C. in 1818. For many years he was secretary to the Highland Society. He purchased (in 1835) the estate of Drimnin, Argyleshire, which is now in the possession of his (third) son, Jose Clement Gordon (1838). A privately printed account of the Minmore family by the present writer is now in the prese.

J. M. BULLOCH.

404. COCHRAN VILLAGE.—Cochran Village is a part of the village of Kincardine O'Neil. Mr Robert Dinnie, in his "History of Kincardine O'Neil" (1885), says—"The village of Kincardine O'Neil contains 35 dwelling-houses, including Cochran Village, or what was formerly called 'Cochran's Croft.'" The croft, he further adds, is at the east end of the village, and belongs to the Rosses of Inchley, near Torphins. Mr A. I. M'Connochie's "Deeside" (1895 edition) says that, "according to tradition," Cochran's Croft was a royal grant to the tenant in return for kindly entertainment.

A.

No. 94.—February 2, 1910.

Earlier Antiquities of Cromar.

The following is a summary of a paper read at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, in August, 1856, by Mr John Stuart, F.S.A. Scot., as recorded in the columns of the "Aberdeen Journal"—

The district of Cromar is a hollow basin, about eight miles from north to south, by four in breadth from east to west, surrounded on all sides by hills, which isolate it from the adjoining country. It lies about thirty-four miles westward from Aberdeen, and between the rivers Dee and Don, at an equal distance from each.

It will be seen from the sequel that there are many remains which seem to attest the early settlement and abundant population of the locality, a result which probably may be traced to the rich alluvial soil which is found throughout the district.

In more modern times, when we come within the light reflected from written records, we have evidence of the continued cultivation and importance of the district. This little country contains the united parishes of Logy and Coldstane, Tarland and Migvie, and the parish of Coul. Of these, the parishes of Tarland and Migvie had been gifted to the Church of the Priory of St Andrews, and that of Coul to the Monastery of Arbroath, before the end of the 12th century. In the grant of Tarland to the Church of St Andrews by Morgund, Earl of Mar, made between the years 1163-1171, the earl recounts the subjects off which the monks were to draw the tithes, including the rents paid to him in hides, corn, cheese, meal, malt, marts, sheep, swine, and game. He also confirms to the monks a piece of ground belonging to the Church of Tarland, with the important addition of a mill upon it.

It would appear from the alluvial deposits, and other circumstances, that, in remote times, the bottom of the valley had been covered by water, which, probably by some violent change, had at last forced an egress to the south, and joined the river Dee. The hill which bounds the western side of Cromar is the lofty Morven, apostrophised by Lord Byron as "Morven of Snow." On the south, the district is divided from Deeside by a range including the hills of Culbleen, Mulloch, and Gellan. A natural opening in this direction conducts the road to Cromar from the south through the moor of Culbleen, on which a skirmish was fought between David, Earl of Athole, and Sir Andrew Murray, in 1335, as related by Wyntoun. From the minute account of this affair preserved by the poet, as well as from existing remains, it is plain that the now barren moor was then covered with a forest of oaks. On the east side of the moor lies the loch of Canmore, in which are two islands, at least partially artificial, on the westmost of which stood a tower, attributed by tradition to Malcolm Keanmore as its founder. Some enormous rafters of black oak, originally used for girding together the fabric of the island, or for a drawbridge to connect it with the land, with the rude mortisings which had joined them, were to be seen last summer at a cottage on the margin of the loch, where also is preserved a bronze vessel resembling a coffee pot, which was fished out of the water. The tower afforded shelter to one of the fugitives from Kilblene, as Wyntoun says—

"Schyr Robert Meyhnels til Canmore
Went, quhare he connand wes before;
Thidder he went, and in a pele
He sawfyt hym and his menyhe welle."

On one of the frequent pilgrimages which James IV. made to the shrine of St Duthac, at Tain, this tower received the wandering monarch within its walls, and the treasurer's accounts preserve the expense of "trussing the king's dogs in the boat when he went to Canmore," and of a payment to the boatman for carrying them across. There is also entry of a payment to the man "quha prufit the Don before the king's grace," on his route northward, when the river probably had been in flood.

In the sixteenth century, the "mansion of Loch Cawnmoir" occurs in the investitures of the Huntly estates, and it was a house of defence in the time of the Great Rebellion.

Along the top and west side of Mullach, and eastward by the Scaur of Auchterfeal, is an almost continuous range of cairns, some of them of remarkable size. Tradition will have it that, while Malcolm Keanmore resided at his keep in the loch, the Danes landed on the coast, being in league with certain traitors who formed members of his Court. The king's doorkeeper revealed the plot, and with the king's troops met the enemy at Monnanduin. A protracted struggle took place on the hill of Mullach, and many fell on both sides, over whom the cairns were raised. From thence the Danes fled to the hill of Mortlach, where the fight was continued; and a streamlet, which is still called the Bleedyburn, is said to have derived its name from the blood which ran so plentifully into it on that day.

As a reward for his fidelity, the king is said to have rewarded his doorkeeper with a grant of lands in Coull. Apart from this legend, which is of no historical value, it is certain that the great family of Durward was in possession of the eastern division of Cromar at the dawning of our record history, while the western and lesser half formed part of the territory of the Earls of Mar. The family of the Durwards disappears from our history immediately before the days of Bruce; but its memory yet lingers in the country of their early settlement, in the proverbial saying, that the bell of the Kirk of Coull rings of its own accord when a Durward dies. The Durwards' Castle, on a mound close to the present kirk, now forms an unshapely mass of rubbish; but from what is recorded of its appearance at the end of last century, it would

appear to have resembled in plan the Castles of Kildrummy on the Don, and Caerlaverock on the Solway.

The "Howe of Cromar" is intersected by a ridge of no great height, running east and west, called Drummy, connected on the west with a higher conical hill, called Knockargity, "on the top of which," says a writer in Sir James Balfour's, MS. Collections, "is a stone from which one may behold all the five Parish Churches of Cromar, and if he walk but his length from the place any way, he cannot see the same." A short way eastward from this mount there are four very large cairns, and numerous smaller ones. The eastern termination of the ridge is called Tomnaverie, on which are to be seen the remains of two circles of large erect stones.

On the slopes which run down from the bounding hills formerly referred to, into the valley, several ancient remains have been found. On the farm of Knowhead, in the northeast corner of the district, another circle of upright stones previously existed, which is now destroyed. About 400 yards further down the slope, and on the farm of Culsh, the underground chamber, hereafter to be described, was found. Westward from Knowhead is another projecting spur running from the main ridge, rounded on the top, and called the Doune. Here were numerous cairns of various sizes, all surrounded by one, and sometimes two, concentric circles of stones, which projected a little above the surface. In most of those which have been opened, a grave was found, composed of flagstones about 4 or 4½ feet long, by 2 in breadth. In only one of them was anything found, and then only parts of an urn of burnt clay. On the west slope of the Doune there remained, till lately, the circle of stones which had surrounded a cairn after the stones of the latter had been removed, and the stone coffin which had been in its centre also remained, surmounted by a blue boulder of immense size. Descending from the Doune towards the village of Tarland, and on a rocky eminence, there stood, till lately, a circle of upright stones, and near to it were found a few well-preserved arrow-heads of flint, along with a stone celt. Another circle of upright stones stood about a quarter of a mile to the westward of this position.

In various parts of the district were found square-shaped hollows, of no great size, the earth scooped out of which formed a small bounding fence. They were paved in the bottom with stones, under which, in most cases, was a layer of ashes. These enclosures received the name of "Picts' Houses" from the country people, and appear to have occurred all over the country. "On the farm of Cairnmore of Belleck," says the minister of Logie Coldstane, in his Statistical Account, "has been discovered part of a paved road of considerable width. Near it is a hollow, which is known by the name of the Picts' Howe. In removing part of the stones which formed the pavement, numerous pieces of charred wood were found beneath them." On the south slope of Drummy occurs a very small circle of upright stones, and it appears that these were also frequent in the district. On the south slope of Knockargity is a large cairn among the cultivated land, and to the westward of this cairn occurred one of the square enclosures just referred to, which was trenched up some years ago. In the course of this operation were found two stone cups, or ladles, resembling those dug up from a paved way near a circle of stones at Tullynessle in 1838. One of the large cairns in Drummy was opened in the course of last summer, but no grave was found. This, however, may have arisen from the search not having been so thoroughly completed as to expose the centre of the cairn, where deposits generally were found.

On the farm of Culsh there occurred another paved enclosure, and in it was found the small striped bead or button exhibited. Near to this enclosure was found a grave formed of six flags brought from the Hill of Ledlick, at some distance. The grave must have been cut out of the rock, as the soil at the part of the field where it occurs is very shallow, and on a bed of rock. In the parish of Logy Coldstane, which forms the northern end of Cromar, are many cairns, some of them of very great size. Two farms in the parish have received their name of Cairnmore from the abundance of these remains upon them. There are likewise several circles of upright stones in the parish, and at the farm of Mill of Newton may be seen one of those upright stones with symbolic figures cut on its surface, which occur along the east coast of Scotland, but are rarely found so far inland as this one. In the adjoining parish of Aboyne, a canoe, formed of a single block of oak, was dug out of the peat-moss at Drumduan, on the south side of the loch of Auchlossan, about the year 1833, but it was soon destroyed.

An underground chamber was discovered on the farm of Culsh, about two miles distant from the Church of Tarland, which was cleared out in my presence in the month of August last, and which I shall now endeavour to describe. The cave occurs on a slope, the entry to it being so contrived as not to attract notice. Its extreme length is about 47 feet, it is curved in shape, and closely resembles in form the chamber near Newstead, Roxburghshire. Its width at the entry is about two feet, increasing gradually as it recedes to an average width of about six feet. The extreme end is of a circular shape. The height from the floor, which is on solid rock, increases from five feet near the entry to an average height of about six feet towards the other end. The walls are formed of boulders of various sizes, and they converge as they rise upwards, the cave being about a foot narrower at the roof than at the base of the walls. On the top of the walls are placed large and heavy slabs of stone as a roof, the whole being covered over with earth, so as to harmonise with the surrounding surface. So well has this been done that it was only from the protruding of one of the covering slabs

and its consequent removal, that the cave was discovered. When it was opened up, it was found to be filled nearly to the top with what appeared to be a rich unctuous earth, resembling that of a churchyard more than the ordinary soil of the country. Analysis of the earth did not lead to any marked result. The earth was removed by the farmer to be used as manure, and there were about thirty cartloads of it. At a spot on the floor, about 18 feet from the entry, were found fragments of an urn, several pieces of bones, apparently those of an ox, a quantity of smooth pebbles, two querns, and a mass of ferruginous matter, which appeared to have undergone the action of fire. Portions of them are now exhibited, as well as a large bead which was found among the earth when it was in the course of being spread on the field. A large quantity of charcoal was mixed with the earth from the entrance to the spot where the relics were found. . . .

Inscriptions in St Andrew's Episcopal Church, Aberdeen.

In the vestibule there is a marble tablet, surmounted by a draped urn and open book. It bears the following inscription:

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF
THOMAS CRUICKSHANK,
A NATIVE OF THE CITY,

Who was unfortunately drowned while bathing in the river Demerary / on the 16th January, 1842, aged 21 years. / This tablet was erected by a few of his fellow-colonists and friends, to commemorate the esteem and regard / in which he was held by them.

Mr Cruickshank, who was a native of Aberdeen, had been in the employment of Messrs Henry Bruce and Company, of Georgetown, Demerara, for several years. (See "Aberdeen Journal," 16th March, 1842.)

A small statue in the vestibule, by Flaxman, the celebrated sculptor, showing the Bishop with an opened Bible in his hands, has the following inscription at the base—

TO THE MEMORY OF
THE RIGHT REVEREND JOHN SKINNER,
PRIMUS OF THE EPISCOPAL COLLEGE IN SCOTLAND,
BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF ABERDEEN,

And for more than forty years
Pastor of this congregation;
Who was born May 19th, 1721,
And died July 13, 1816.
A tribute of grateful affection
By his sorrowing flock

A marble tablet affixed to the wall to the right of the statue bears a Latin inscription, of which this is a translation—

This house was built by pious donations from the benevolent, under the care of John Skinner, the pastor of this beloved congregation for twenty years, and the chief of the Scotch bishops. On the thirteenth day of September, in the year 1795, he consecrated it with Liturgical service to divine worship and appointed it to be known by the name of Saint Andrew, the apostle to the Scots.

Receive it Christ, with favourable eye the humble prayers which this house pours forth from a humble breast.

A marble tablet fixed contiguous to the above records that—

This tablet was brought here
From the Old St Andrew's Chapel
In Longacre, 1816

The above-mentioned Right Rev. John Skinner was the second son of Rev. John Skinner (1721-1807), Episcopal clergyman at Longside, and well known as the author of "Tullochgorum," "The Ewie wi' the Crookit Horn," and other poems, and his wife, Grace Hutcheson; and was born at Linshart, Longside. He was educated at the parish schools of Longside and Echt under his grandfather, John Skinner, and at Marischal College, Aberdeen, which he left in 1761. Ordained deacon in 1763 and priest in 1764 by Bishop Gerard of Aberdeen, he was appointed to the congregations of Echt and Udny. In 1775 he succeeded Rev. William Smith in the charge of the congregation in Longacre, Aberdeen. On 25th September, 1782, he was consecrated at Lathrisum, near Laurencekirk, as co-adjutor to Robert Kilgour (1707-1799) Bishop of Aberdeen, his consecrators being Robert Kilgour, Charles Ross, Bishop of Dunkeld, and Arthur Petrie, Bishop of Moray and Ross. On Kilgour's resignation of his see (October, 1785), Skinner was appointed Bishop of Aberdeen; and he was elected Primus in December, 1788, on Kilgour's resignation of that office. At Aberdeen, he built a new chapel in 1795, and in 1816 he laid the foundation of the present handsome edifice in King Street. Perhaps the most interesting episode in his active and useful life was his meeting with Robert Burns, the poet. The interesting conversation which took place between these celebrities in the "Aberdeen Journal" Office is too well known to require repetition here.

Bishop Skinner married, on 27th August, 1774, Mary Robertson, daughter of Rev. William Robertson, Episcopal clergyman, who was a son of Thomas Robertson of Downhills. Of their family were—

1. John Skinner (author of "Scottish Episcopacy"), Dean of Dunkeld and Dunblane, born 20th August, 1769; died at Forfar, 20th September, 1841, who married as his second wife, Janet Duff (daughter of John Duff—of the Duffs of Braco, ancestors of the Earls of Fife—and his wife, Anne Ogilvy or Roberts) who died April, 1872, aged 94.

2. William Skinner, Bishop of Aberdeen, who was born at Aberdeen, 24th October, 1775; married in 1808 Johanna, youngest daughter of James Brand, cashier of the Aberdeen Banking Company; died at 1 Golden Square, Aberdeen, 15th April, 1857.

Bishop John Skinner was buried in St Peter's Cemetery, Aberdeen, where a monument adjoining the gate of the Moir and Bruce family mausoleum bears the following inscription—

†

Sacred to the memory of / The Right Revd. John Skinner, / Senior Bishop and Primus of the / Scotch Episcopal Church, / who died 13th of July 1816 in his 73rd year; / of his beloved wife / Mary Robertson / who predeceased him March 4th 1807 aged 69 / and of their eldest daughter Jane, / who died in her 58th year 22nd June 1824. / Within the same enclosure / lie the remains of their son in law / Alexander Dalgarno, / merchant in Aberdeen, / born the 23rd June 1771, died February 3d 1835 / and of their daughter his wife Mary Skinner / born the 4th June 1771, died January 7th 1851. / Beside them are deposited also the ashes / of their two beloved daughters / Mary, who died 22d June 1808, / and Jane, who died 11th March 1815, / both in the twelfth year of their age. /

With those of his parents mingle also the ashes of / the Right Reverend William Skinner, D.D. / Primus of the Scotch Episcopal Church / and for 41 years Bishop of the Diocese of Aberdeen, / who, born the 24th October 1778, died the 15th April, 1857. / And of his beloved wife Johanna Brand, / born the 4th October 1785, and died 4th May 1858. /

At the base of the monument is—

William Skinner / Advocate in Aberdeen / Born 3 August 1806, died 19 November 1861 / and Emily May Forsyth, his wife / who predeceased him 24th February 1858 aged 35. /

The last-named William Skinner was admitted to the Society of Advocates in Aberdeen, 1829. He was a great-grandson of Rev. John Skinner of Linshart, and nephew of Bishop William Skinner, of Aberdeen. In the latter years of his life, he assumed Mr Thomas Wilsone as his partner, the firm name being Skinner and Wilsone. He was honorary secretary of the Aberdeen Golf Club from 1833 to 1842 (Smith's "Aberdeen Golfers").

Much has been written about Bishop John Skinner, but the following are the chief sources of information—Dictionary of National Biography, 1897 edition, Volume lii., pp. 344, 345; "Scottish Notes and Queries," 1st Series, xii., 69; Dean Walker's "Life and Times of John Skinner" (Aberdeen, 1887), illustrated with portrait from a miniature by A. Robertson; article entitled "The Scottish Church in the 19th Century," by William Mutch, Aberdeen, in the "Aberdeen and Buchan Churchman," July 1908, also illustrated with portrait; and the authoritative "Seabury Centenary Report," which contains a faithful drawing of Longacre, Aberdeen, as it appeared in 1885, showing on the extreme left the building erected by the Bishop in 1795.

In the vestibule there is also a framed photograph of Bishop Seabury's first altar erected in Aberdeen. The photograph has the following explanatory note added in the handwriting of the late Dean Denson—

At this altar, the First Bishop of Connecticut, the Right Reverend Samuel Seabury, D.D., ministered before God during his Episcopate of 12 years. It is now in the Berkeley Divinity School, Middletown, Connecticut. The photograph was presented to St Andrew's Church by Mrs Girand, August, 1908.

On the south side of Marischal College a square polished granite tablet bears—

[Bishop's Mitre.]

[Arms.]

"NOVI ORBIS APOSTOLI SIT NOMEN PERENNE."

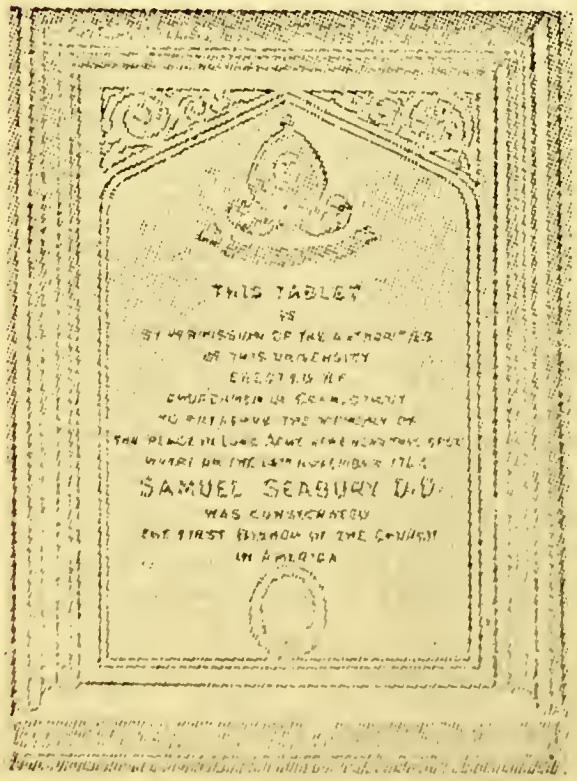
["Let the name of the apostle of the New World endure for ever."].

THIS TABLET
IS
BY PERMISSION OF THE AUTHORITIES
OF THIS UNIVERSITY
ERECTED BY
CHURCHMEN OF CONNECTICUT
TO PRESERVE THE MEMORY OF
THE PLACE IN LONGACRE, VERY NEAR
THE SPOT
WHERE ON THE 14th NOVEMBER 1784
SAMUEL SEABURY, D.D.,
WAS CONSECRATED
THE FIRST BISHOP OF THE CHURCH
IN AMERICA.

"SIGILLUM REIPUBLICÆ CONNECTICUTENSIS."

[Seal of the State of Connecticut.]

[Seal.]



The unveiling of this tablet by the Marquis of Lothian took place on 16th March, 1899.

Interesting particulars relating to the event and to the circumstances which led up to its erection, will be found in "Scottish Notes and Queries," 1st Series, Vol xii., p. 153. But special mention ought to be made here of the "Catalogue of the Seabury Relics"; also, a handsome folio written by the late Alexander Walker, LL.D., entitled "On Some Church Relics, shewn at the Seabury Centenary Meeting in Aberdeen, October, 1884" (illustrated). The latter work was fittingly dedicated to the Bishops, Priests, Deacons, and others present at "The Seabury Centenary."

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

John Imlah.

When engaged in a boyish whim of filling a scrap-book with fugitive bits of verse from the newspapers, I solicited contributions from my seniors in the printing craft, and was rewarded with a number of cuttings from the "Aberdeen Constitutional," a defunct newspaper, which had been superseded in the same premises by the "North of Scotland Gazette," on which I graduated as a compositor. That scrap-book has been a great solace to me since, for by it I am enabled to trace a good deal of local poetry to its source.

About a third of the pieces I got were signed, "Matt. Micaiah," and two of them became favourites of mine—"My Ain Countrie" and "The Bridal o' Balgownie," the latter being especially good. What a singular pseudonym, Matt. Micaiah! I puzzled over it, and inquired of the elder printers, and got the usual rebuff which the ardent juvenile invariably receives. They did not know, but they assumed the airs of superior knowledge, and sneeringly asked—"Fat the better wid ye be, gin ye kent?" "Mind yer wark, yo young snatchet!" and one jocular gentleman bade me "Spier at Hugh Mackay" (a somewhat bibulous comp. with a genealogical bias) for some hints of a supposed clansman. I was snubbed on all sides, and even the late Mr William Stevenson, then warehouseman in the office, but afterwards a bookseller in St Nicholas Street, who had printed some verses of his own composition on the Barrack Hill of Aberdeen, told me he did not know the author—it was evidently a Scriptural and therefore Jewish name; and then, with much asperity, admonished me to attend to my duties and not waste time on such frivolities.

My duties! O ye Conscript Fathers of our craft! I had to put in 70 hours per week for half-a-crown wages—less by a fraction than a bawbee an hour. The men worked 66 hours—from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., no difference on Saturdays; and I had to be half an hour earlier to sweep out rooms and kindle fires, and in the evening be kept another half-hour, more or less, to go down to the Post Office with letters and papers. It used to be about 9 o'clock before I got home to Fittie. That was seldom, but providentially "I didna ken o't." However, "let that flee stick to the wa'."

I had to put the problem of "Matt. Micaiah" on a shelf in my mental cupboard for a time; but there had been others on the spoor as well as myself, for one of the rhymes given me was an epistle beginning—

"Oh, Matt Micaiah, wha are ye?
Ower a' oor bards ye bear the gree."

Years after I found the clue in looking over that eccentric Aberdonian, Alexander Cruden's "Concordance to the Bible," where, under "Micaiah," is added "the son of Imla (see 2 Chron., xviii., 7 and 8). I ejaculated "Eureka!" Matt. Micaiah was John Imlah, the song-writer, a true son of Bon-Accord; and some time after I bought a second-hand copy of his "Poems and Songs," published 1841, in which were several of the pieces formerly signed "Matt. Micaiah." The book is disfigured with a number of blunders in the spelling of the Scots words, but this may be accounted for by the fact that it was printed in England by B. Bensley, Woking—a place subsequently notorious for its Crematorium. The book was dedicated to the son of our national poet, Major James Glencairn Burns, of Renfield, Essex, "by his attached friend, the author."

I daresay all this may be stale news to some of your readers, but my solution of the problem was virtually mine own without any assistance whatever. Who would tell me in Australia? or, not to put too fine a point upon it, who cares a straw for such things in this money-grabbing age?

Well, I may give a brief memoir of the poet. He was born in North Street in 1799, the youngest of six sons (seven, says Mr Walker in "The Bards of Bon-Accord") of Peter Imlah, an innkeeper from Fyvie. Trained as a pianoforte-maker, he likewise became an expert tuner, and was employed as such in London by Messrs Broadwood, the founder of which firm was a Scot from Dunbar. Imlah became acquainted with a musical composer, Joseph de Pinna, of whom not much is known, who set about a dozen songs of Imlah's to music, the most popular being "There lives a young lassie far doon in yon glen," sung by John Templeton, the great Scottish tenor. There are only three verses in Imlah's book and the same in Rogers's selection in the "Modern Scottish Minstrel"; but in Whitelaw's "Book of Scottish Song," there are four verses (first edition, 1844), and unquestionably Imlah added the extra verse himself, for he begins the collection with an introductory poem, entitled "Auld Scotia's Sangs." His first publication in 1823, "May Flowers," I have not seen.

The principal poem in the 1841 book is a "lang screed" of 87 verses in the "Standard Habbie" jingle form, entitled "Drummagarrow" — which ostensibly refers to a celebrated violinist living on that farm in the parish of Glenbucket, named James Strachan (born 1785, died 1877), whose father and whose son, same name, were likewise famous fiddlers; but the poem is very dis-

cursive, and tackles a variety of topics, having only a dozen stanzas descriptive of the fiddler.

Imlah was essentially a lyrical poet. Some of his lays are of the "ormolu" type of drawing-room inanities; but his Scottish songs are capital, such as "Oh gin I were where Gadie rins," "Old Scotland," "The King's come ower the Border," "The Birks o' Abergeldie," "The Gordons ha'e the guidin' o't," "Bon-Accord," "St Andrew's Day," "The Laird o' Macnab," and the Jacobite song erroneously attributed to Hogg, "Rise, rise, Lowland and Highlandmen." Not without misgiving—as some of his verses indicate, such as—

"I bound me, never to return,
Beyond the sweeping sea,
And few will miss me, fewer mourn,
For ever though it be."

—he went to visit an elder brother who had settled in the West Indies, and died shortly thereafter. In my copy of his "Poems and Songs," a former possessor wrote:—"Died at Hammersmith, Cornwall, Jamaica, on the 9th January, 1846, John Imlah, Esq., author of two volumes of lyrical poetry, and of several productions of a higher order not yet collected for publication."

Perhaps Mr G. M. Fraser can tell whether any posthumous volume by Imlah was ever issued.

Imlach is a common spelling of the name, and it would be certain to attract the poet's attention in the character of Imlac, the Abyssinian philosopher, in Johnson's "Rasselas."

ALBA.

Books from the Aberdeen Diocesan Library.

At a meeting of the Scottish Ecclesiological Society in Edinburgh on Saturday, 22nd ult., under the chairmanship of Sir James Balfour Paul, several books belonging to the Diocesan Library, Aberdeen, were exhibited. Their chief interest lay in their having been formerly in the libraries of notable Scotsmen, whose autographs they bear.

Books that survived the Scottish Reformation are extremely rare, especially such as present evidence of their pre-Reformation ownership. The earliest book exhibited is a copy of the works of Cicero in two folio volumes, printed at Paris in 1520. Although in bad condition, the volumes are still in their original stamped leather bindings, richly blind-tooled. They were at first in the library of Alexander Lyon, Precentor of Elgin Cathedral in the second quarter of the sixteenth century. Hector Boece dedicated his history to Lyon, who appears to have had some connection with Aberdeen, as he is known to have presented a fontal to St Mary's altar in Aberdeen Cathedral. From him the book passed to James Menzies, probably the parson of Dunnottar who is one of the witnesses to an obligation by the Provost and Town Council of Aberdeen in 1529 to help the newly-built Bridge of Dee in repair. He gave the volumes to Alexander Galloway, canon of Aberdeen and rector of Kinkell, who was one of the most prominent and influential of the clergy of his day. He was successively vicar of Fordyce and Bethelny (Old Meldrum), prebendary of Durris, and afterwards rector of Kinkell. In 1516, 1521, 1530, and 1543 he was Rector of the University, and Boece the historian tells us that he was "skilled in canon law . . . for some years before Bishop William's (Elphinstone's) death was so highly esteemed by him, that hardly anything was done by him without the rector's (Galloway's) guidance." He acted as architectural adviser to Bishop Dunbar, and also to the Town Council of Aberdeen, having much to do with the building of the Bridge of Dee, as well as the erection and enlargement of the Greyfriars' and other churches, upon some of which his initials still remain. He died in 1552. His name appears in both volumes of the Cicero, with a note at the end of one of them that he received it from Menzies, who succeeded Lyon as its owner. Lyon's own autograph also appears in each volume.

A copy of Boece's "History," printed at Paris in 1526, was also shown. It belonged to William Clerk, chaplain of the altar of St Duthac in Elgin Cathedral, who made copious but not interesting notes in the margin. After the Reformation a sixteenth century minister of Dallas made notes about some people's wills at the end.

A most interesting early book plate, or rather label, was shown in a copy of the works of St John Damascene, edited by Oecolampadius, and printed at Basel in 1535. It takes the form of a very narrow strip of paper, on which is printed in Roman letters "Ex libris domini Roberti Reid, abbatis a Kynlos." This is pasted across the title page just above the imprint. Robert Reid was made Bishop of Orkney in 1540. He carried out important measures of legal reform in that diocese, and was President of the Court of Session in 1554. He was a man of great ability, and it is interesting to note from his having had this book that he must have been sufficiently abreast of the new learning to read a Protestant edition of one of the fathers of the Church. He was one of the commissioners sent to France to witness Queen Mary's marriage, and he died at Dieppe on his way home in 1558. This book afterwards passed into the hands of William Forbes of Tolquhon, whose autograph is on the title page with the date, 1588.

Two books of later date were shown. One—a folio copy of the "Acts of the National Synod of Dort, 1618-19," printed there in 1620, bears on the fly leaf, "Mr Robert Baron" and "Ex libris Alexri. Garden." The first was one of the great "Aberdeen Doctors," and the second was minister of Forgue, and father of James and George Garden, the famous non-juring clergymen, well known in Aberdeen at a later date.

The other post-Reformation book is a small copy of "Acts of Assembly, 1638-49," printed (? at Edinburgh) in 1682, on the title page of which is the autograph of John Paterson, the last Archbishop of Glasgow, with a note of the price he paid for the book, thus—"Jo: Glasgow, November, 1689, pret: 03—02—0." He had been Bishop of Galloway and then of Edinburgh, and was appointed to Glasgow in 1687. He died at Edinburgh in 1708.

A Cawdor Castle Tradition.

The history of Cawdor Castle dates back to 1454, when Thane William, the great-grandson of the Thane by whom much of the surrounding land had been gradually acquired, found himself rich enough to set about the building of a stronghold more in accordance with his position than the old Constabulary Castle at Nairn, on the site of which the factor's house now stands. The wherewithal to build was represented by solid gold stored in a strong treasure chest; and tradition has it that the site was chosen for him by an ass. He had long hesitated as to where to erect his dwelling, but at last inspiration came in a dream, wherein he was admonished to bind the coffer upon the back of an ass and to build his tower at the spot where the ass should first stop to rest. By the banks of the Cawdor Burn three hawthorn trees were growing. The ass passed two of them, but under the third it halted. Here the Thane, as by the figure of his vision bid, founded the baronial keep which still exists; sinking his foundations around the hawthorn tree, and, when the contents were exhausted on the completion of the building, leaving the empty chest beside the tree as a testimony to future ages. How far the story may or may not be true can safely be left to the reader. But true it is that in the dungeon the trunk of a hawthorn tree still exists, grown out of the rocky floor and through the arch of the vault, while beside it is an iron-bound old coffer, the workmanship of which proclaims it to be of great age. Lachlan Shaw tells us of the tree that "strangers are brought to stand round it: each are to take a chip of it; and then to drink to the hawthorn, i.e.—'Prosperity to the Family of Calder.'" That was no doubt the custom in his day and for many years after, because the trunk has been chipped until it has become sadly attenuated—so much so that of late years, and to preserve the memorial for future generations, it has had to be protected by a cylinder of fine wire netting enclosing it from floor to arched ceiling.

In one matter at least the ass was not misguided. The site chosen was the most charming in the district, and the position one of great strategic value and importance. It is on a plateau guarded on the right by the steep bank of the turbulent burn, while from the tower the whole surrounding land can be surveyed, so that it would be impossible to take the place by surprise. To the north, the land, as far as the shores of the Moray Firth, and across the water to the Souters of Cromarty, the Black Isle, Sutherland and Caithness, can be seen; to the west, Ben Wyvis looms in furthest distance; to the south, the view extends over the policies and woods beyond to the foothills of the Monadh Liath Mountains, while to the east Nairn and Forres are distinguishable, and the German Ocean supplies the horizon line.—"Estate Magazine," January, 1910.

Queries.

416. John Farquharson of West-Town, Banff.—William M'Kenzie (born 1737; died in Old Aberdeen 31/8/1812), chaplain, 72nd Seaforths, married (1) Helen Michie, daughter of John Michie, merchant, Banff, and his wife, Elizabeth Farquharson, daughter of John Farquharson of West-Town, Banff; (2) Barbara Michie, daughter of Rev. Robert Michie, Cluny, (3) Jean Shewan, daughter of Alexander Shewan, Monymusk, and widow of Professor William Chalmers, M.D., King's College. In the "Aberdeen Journal" Obituary of 24th June, 1819, the following notice appears:—"Mrs Lieutenant Farquharson, in Old Aberdeen, and on the same day and at the same hour also died her sister, Mrs Schewan in Pitfichie, Monymusk." Were these two sisters related to Rev. William M'Kenzie's third wife? Whom did John Farquharson of West-Town marry, and who were his parents? Was Lieutenant Farquharson any relation?

Charles Michie.

417. Girsell Walker.—An old tombstone in St Nicholas Graveyard records the deaths of "Alexander Gordon lait Provost of Aberdeen who departed this lyfe the 24 of March, 1692, of age 66. As also Girsell Walker his spouse. . ." Who was the lady the daughter of?

W. Smith.

418. "The Men."—"The Men" was a title given to certain individuals in the northern counties who professed conversion through miraculous means. Having great faith, they laboured hard to secure additional converts. It is stated that they declared in public that Providence was in the habit of directly answering their prayers. Mr Jervise records that they had a stone with an inscription erected to record the fact that the Spey had changed its course near Duthil "in obedience to their prayers." A copy of this inscription would oblige.

G. Y.

419. Dr Michie Forbes Anderson.—Who was his grandmother, wife of Charles Anderson of Candacraig, Strathdon (born 1711; died 16th March, 1776)? Where does the Michie connection, if any, come in?

Charles Michie.

Answers.

399. "The Rough Tykes of Tarland."—Seven annual markets of considerable importance were formerly held at Tarland, and they frequently wound up with a free fight. The Tarland men considered it imperative to stand up for the credit of their parish against heavy odds, and a defeat spurred them on to pick future quarrels to get revenge. Lives were sometimes sacrificed, and the criminal authorities had to use drastic measures to terminate such lawless encounters. Smith, in "A New History of Aberdeenshire," II., p. 1263, quotes the following four verses:—

You'll find as good as e'er drew bluid,
To fight in Tarland town, man;
Knock down their foes wi' hearty blows.
An' nobly claw their crown, man.

Ye needna come o'er frae Strathdon,
To brag an' daur Cromar, man;
From Towie side, wi' fouth o' pride,
For Tarland winna scaur, man.

Our Deeside boys mak' little noise,
They ken our Tarland laws, man;
They needna come to try our han'
At clubs or shak' o' fa's, man.

The Leochel Bairns may keep their glens,
Among their frost and snaw, man,
Gin they come here we'll gie them cheer,
And chase them far awa', man.

Deeside.

405. "The Banks of the Dee."—This poem was composed, in 1775, by John Tait, who, in November 1781, was admitted a Writer to the Signet, and, in July 1805, was elected Judge of Police of Edinburgh. He died 29th August, 1817. He was the author of various poems, including "Cave of Morar," and "Poetical Legends." R. Y.

406. "Cockit Hat."—"Cockit Hat" is the name of a triangular piece of ground (a single field) at the top of the Stocket Brae, or what is now known as the Raeden Road (Mid Stocket Road). It is wedged in between the continuation of the Raeden Road, the road leading north to Cairnery, and a road running from the latter to the old Skene Road or "Lang Straucht." A.

[S. C. C. replies similarly, and adds the interesting suggestion that the title "Cockit Hat" had been applied to the field in question from its similarity in shape to a cocked hat.—Ed.]

No. 95.—February 9, 1910.

Longevity Extraordinary.

Died lately at Glencalvie, Parish of Kincardine, Ross-shire, Alexander Campbell, alias Iverach, at the advanced age of 117 years. He was born in 1698, carried arms in 1715 under William, Lord Ross, and, till his death, showed the characteristic hardihood of a Highlander to an uncommon degree. In the severest weather, he went with his neck and breast bare, and to the last walked perfectly erect; his dress, the short coat, kilt, and plaid, and his staff generally across his breast. Till the uncommon storm of last winter fell, he could walk down to Gladfield and the Manse in a day, the distance being about eleven miles. He entered as a scholar last year in one of the Gaelic Society's Schools in his vicinity, actually learned the alphabet, and began spelling, when his further progress was arrested by the failure of his sight. He waited last harvest on the Right Honourable Lord Ashburton, at Rosehall, when his Lordship, with his wonted benevolence, gave him a shilling for every year of his life, and a further sum to buy a little of his favourite Usquebagh to keep his old age comfortable; in all, upwards of six guineas. His Lordship's donation outlasted Iverach's days, and helped to put the hoary veteran under the turf.—"Aberdeen Journal," May 8th, 1816.

Inscriptions in St Andrew's Episcopal Church, Aberdeen.

(Continued.)

A beautiful memorial window in the west gallery has, at the base, a brass tablet inscribed—

AMDG.

And in Memory of George Skene Tayler of Inchgarth, Commander R.N., / who died 18th March, 1894, in his 78th year. This window is erected by his widow. / "The sea is no more."

Commander Tayler, R.N., was a son of Major Alexander Francis Tayler, and of the Lady Jane Tayler, daughter of the third Earl of Fife. He was born at Rothiemay House, Banffshire, and, after being educated privately, he entered the Royal Navy in 1831. As mate on H.M.S. Calliope, he saw service in China, for which he received a medal in 1842. Appointed to the Coastguard in 1849, he was stationed at Johnshaven, and afterwards at Dunbar, at both of which places he was instrumental in saving life from shipwreck. He married, in 1855, Anna Maria, seventh daughter of Mr David Scott of Brotherton, Kincardineshire. In 1860 he purchased the land of Inchgarth, and built thereon the present mansion-house, in which he resided from 1868 until his death. He was buried in Allenvale Cemetery, Aberdeen, where an anchor with chain, on a cross with rough base, bears the undernoted inscription—

In hope of the resurrection / and to the beloved memory of / George Skene Tayler, / of Inchgarth, Commander, R.N., 5th son of / Major and the Lady Jane Tayler, / Rothiemay, Banffshire, / who died at Inchgarth, Palm Sunday, / March 18th, 1894, in his 78th year. / His widow dedicates this stone.

His widow, who still survives, resides at 19 Rubislaw Terrace, Aberdeen.

On the south side there are three beautiful windows—

I.

In loving remembrance of David Byres and family, dedicated by his widow, 1899.

David Byres, retired linen manufacturer, who died at 549 George Street, Aberdeen, on 28th May, 1893, aged 64, was born at Inverurie. He was a son of George Byres, flourmill agent, and his wife, Lizzie Moir (Aberdeen Death Registers). Mr Byres came to Aberdeen at a very early age, and entered the service of Messrs Richards and Co., Broadford Works, where he held a responsible position for the long period of thirty years. In 1885, he entered the Aberdeen Town Council as a representative of Greyfriars Ward, and, with the exception of a term of one year, he continued to hold office. He was greatly interested in the affairs of the Incorporated Trades, and was frequently Deacon of the Weaver Incorporation; he also filled the office of Master of Hospital, and afterwards that of Convener. He was also a life trustee and school manager of St Andrew's Episcopal Church. (For further details of his services to the general community see "In Memoriam, 1893," pp. 116-118.) The work of the window was successfully carried out by Messrs John Hardman and Co., Birmingham, in 1899.

Mr Byres was married by Rev. H. St John Howard, assistant minister of St Andrew's Episcopal Church, Aberdeen, to Jane Martin, on 25th January, 1855, in presence of Alexander Watkins Martin and William Byres, both residing in Aberdeen (Byres Family Papers). Jane Martin died at 549 George Street, Aberdeen. The issue of David Byres and his wife—all born in Aberdeen—were as follows—

(1) George Martin Byres, unmarried, who resides in Montreal.

(2) Alexander Martin Byres, C.A., married Kate Niven Buyers. He died 13th November, 1896, aged 59 years, and was buried in Allenvale Cemetery, Aberdeen; he left two children. (For obituary notice, accompanied by portrait, see "In Memoriam, 1896," pp. 128-130.)

(3) David Thomson Byres, architect, and Assoc. Memb. Inst. C.E., who was married at Aberdeen, by Rev. James Myers Danson, M.A.,

to Isabella Ross (born at Hong-Kong), only surviving daughter of Alexander Ross, Sunderland, late of Aberdeen, by whom he has the following issue—Reginald Ernest Ross, died at 104 Hamilton Place, Aberdeen, 18th July, 1898, aged 5 years and 3 months ("In Memoriam, 1898," p. 149); Leila Mary; and Arthur Beresford.

(4) Wilmot Byres (1861-1879), who was buried in St Peter's Cemetery, Aberdeen. See inscription quoted below.

(5) Edward William Byres (1866-1897), who died at 44 Mile-End Avenue, Aberdeen, and was buried in St Peter's Cemetery, Aberdeen.

(6) Henry James Byres (1868-1888), who is buried in St Peter's Cemetery, Aberdeen.

(7) Jane Watkins Byres, married Robert Cruickshank, Newtonhill, with issue.

(8) Elizabeth Moir Byres, unmarried.

A headstone in St Peter's Cemetery, Aberdeen, bears the following inscription, which supplements the foregoing—

† In loving remembrance / of / Wilmot Byres, / born 2nd September, 1861, / died 22nd January, 1879. / Henry James Byres, / born 5th May, 1868. / died 10th March, 1888. / And of their father, / David Byres, / born 11th May, 1829. / died 28th May, 1893. / And their mother, / Jane Murtin Byres, / who died 10th March, 1901. / Also / Edward William Byres, / born 22nd October, 1865. / died 27th January, 1897. / "Lord, remember me."

II.

Sacred to the memory of
the Revd. William Browning,
who for twenty-six years
faithfully discharged the
duties of second Pastor
of the Congregation, and
entered into his rest on
29th day of May,
1843.

Rev. William Browning died in the 51st year of his age. His connection with St Andrew's began in 1817, as assistant to the Bishop of Aberdeen in the duties of that chapel. It was his first and only cure; and he greatly endeared himself to a numerous flock by his quiet and unassuming manners, and by the unvarying strictness and unwearied attention with which he performed every duty of his sacred office; while by his clerical brethren, as well as by his Bishop, he was greatly valued as a sound and consistent Churchman. (See obituary in "Aberdeen Journal," 7th June, 1843.) There is a memorial window to his memory in St John's Episcopal Church, erected by his widow, Isabella Simpson (1798-1881).

III.

Dedicated by her affectionate daughter to the / beloved memory of Jane Brebner of Learney, wife / of William Innes of Raemoir, Born 1785. Died 1872.

Jane Brebner, born in Aberdeen, 16th October, 1786 (New Spalding Club "Miscellany," II., 336), was the eldest daughter of Provost Alexander Brebner of Learney, merchant and manufacturer, by Christian Leys, daughter of Baillie Francis Leys, and sister of Provost Thomas Leys. She married, on 19th October, 1809, William Innes of Raemoir, etc., merchant in London. Their eldest son, Alexander, succeeded to his father's estates, while the second son, Colonel Thomas Innes, Belmont Street, Aberdeen, succeeded to his mother's estate of Learney; Colonel Innes's son, Lieutenant-Colonel Francis Newell Innes of Learney and Cullerlie, died 12th April, 1907, aged 62. The lady who erected the memorial window was Christian Innes, sister of Colonel Thomas Innes. She married Charles Gordon, captain, 92nd Gordon Highlanders.

(For exhaustive inscriptions recording the genealogy of the old family of Brebner see Mr A. M. Munro's "Records of Old Aberdeen," Vol II., pp. 222-223, issued by the New Spalding Club.)

A tablet on the south wall of the church is inscribed—

In
Memory
of
John Rough,
who for 35 years
was principal beadle
of St Andrew's Church,
and entered into his rest
5th April, 1860,
Æ 71.
Also of
Mary Murray,
his wife,
who died 14th January, 1858,
Æ 58.

John Rough, the venerable beadle of St Andrew's, generously gave the excellent site of the chancel to the church. ("Seabury Centenary Report," p. 65.) His wife died at King Street, Aberdeen, on the date mentioned, without issue. Both were buried in St Peter's Cemetery, Aberdeen, where a headstone commemorates their memory. It also records that John Rough's sister, Jane, died 18th November, 1865, aged 79 years, and her husband, Thomas Rae, shoemaker, died 9th April, 1891, aged 81 years. "In Memoriam" of 1891 (p. 68) relates that Rae's death took place at the old Four-Mile House on 16th April, 1891.

It appears that John Rough practised as a chiropodist, and had a large number of patients. (Information from a correspondent.) His

memory is perpetuated further by an inscription on a stone in the outer wall of the schoolhouse attached to the church—

JOHN ROUGH [OBIT APRIL 6, 1860]
BEQUEATHED THIS SITE WITH THE SUM OF
TWO HUNDRED POUNDS STG. TOWARDS
BUILDING THESE SCHOOLS. †
A.D.
1865.

The building was erected in the last-named year.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

A Coull Hare.

The parish of Coull in Aberdeenshire has long been famous for the number and size of its hares. I can personally vouch for this, as I have seen them many a time in my rambles in the district. They seem to find sanctuary in the hills of Coull and Mortlich and in the birchen woods by the Queen's Hill and Balnag wan. One of the largest hares I ever saw caught my eye as she sat nibbling away near the huge grass-grown ruins of the Castle of Coull—at one time the great stronghold of the mighty race of Durward. The following document, it seems to me, discloses the secret of the extraordinary size of the Coull hares. The story, as told to the Commissary of Aberdeen, was briefly as follows, and it may be mentioned that Coull at one time was chiefly inhabited by Durwards, Caddells, Roses, Middletons, and Fyffes.

One day, in the gloaming, Allaster Caddell spied a huge hare quietly nibbling in a field near his dwelling. He at once seized his gun and fired at Puss with such effect that she hirpled away mortally wounded, barely eluding capture in a mysterious way near the house of William N——. Her strange disappearance puzzled Allaster, who came to the conclusion that the beast was a witch, and none other than the aged mother of William. As the poor mother died in great agony that same night, all doubt vanished, and suspicion became certainty. Here is the sequel as told in legal proceedings between two neighbours, and it must be stated that the official record does not give all the details submitted to the Commissary:—

"[1702 Sept. 11] William [by the Grace of God, etc.] Forasmuch as it is humbly meaned and shewn to us be our lovit William N. . . . . in Titabourie that where upon the fourteenth day of July jm viic and two years the said Complainer obtained ane Decreet at his instance before the Commissar of Aberdeen against John Middleton in Boghead and Margaret Fyffe his spouse making mention that where the said complainer had lived under the fear of God, discipline of the Church as ane honest man unspotted or defamed by any person whatsoever within the parochin of Coull and diocy of Aberdeen this severall years bygone while now of late upon the twelfth day of March jm viic and [illegible] years, or one or other of the days of the said moneth upon the land of Boghead and within the dwelling of the said John Middleton merchant lying in the said parochin and diocy of Aberdeen forsaid: the said John Middleton and Marjory Fyffe his spouse being of evil inspyred minds mallinusly, etc., most cruelly blackened slandered and injured so far as in them lay by calling and saying to the Complainer that he was a witch geet [i.e., witch begotten] and that Allaster Caddell in Whyteley Shott at the said Complainer's mother with a gun in the likeness of a hand or hare and because he did not kill her dead they said that the said Complainer her own son did kill her out of hand the same night and many other injurious words which injurious words the Complainer would not suffer to have been spoken to him for the sum of 500 merks Scots money."

The Middletons were charged to appear in the Parish Church of Coull in the time of Divine Service and "there ask forgiveness of God, next of the congregation, and then the said Complainer's forgiveness, and say they lyed in speaking of the injurious words lybelled and declare that they know nothing to the said Complainer nor his predecessors, but that they were honest persons." The Middletons were also fined heavily. They got off lightly in comparison with scandalmongers of the same period in Tain and Dornoch. In the latter cases the culprits were put in the stocks, and one of the slanderers had his ears cut off by his victim—the ancient and very proper punishment. The Kirk Session of Dornoch ought to set up the old stocks again.

D. M. R.

The "Sawney Beane" Myth.

(See "Scottish Notes and Queries," Vol. VIII., pp. 101, 129.)

In a previous article in the defunct "Scottish Notes and Queries," I denounced the story about this ogre (Bete Sableux) as fictitious, and asked for proof of its origin. "W. S.," an esteemed contributor, replied at some length, but while censuring me for the freedom of my strictures, he nearly agreed with me as to the Grub Street manufacture of "Sawney Beane." I wrote out an answer to him, and forwarded it to Mr Bulloch, the editor, who returned the MS., with an intimation that the serial was stopped. However, as the legend is sedulously propagated ayont the Tweed I think time will not be wasted in examining it. [Let me add that an error crept into my first note; I wrote about Scottish authors being employed by Englishmen to "defame their country," and it appeared "defend," which is superbly ridiculous, for any Scot entering England will have to do that frequently.]

I thank "W. S." for enlightening me anent John Nicholson. I never heard of him before: but if he was "sib" to Willie Nicholson, author of that weird ballad "Aiken Drum," I think that, like him, he was a "shingle short" in his mental equipment. "W. S." presumes that Nicholson had some traditionary testimony in support of his gruesome novelette, which Crockett has adopted. Well, it ought to be produced. Must I perforce believe the maundrings of a crack-brained Galloway general, because there might be a seed of veracity in his delusions? Not likely. I might then just as readily believe the narratives of Lemuel Gulliver, Peter Schlemihl, Hans Pfaal, and other monstrous creations of a mischievous intellect. There is something in all of them having the vraisemblance of fact, but when tried by the ordinary standards of truth and experience, they are discerned at once to be dexterous impositions, and rejected as unworthy of credibility.

"Sawney Beane" comes into this category. He was never amongst the "has-beens," for the sufficient reason that he never existed, save in the crazy cranium of Nicholson and his Cockney coadjutor and improver. Even the evolution of the myth, as suggested by "W. S.," is also untenable. He referred to Boece's "Chronicles of Scotland" for confirmation. He will not get it there. I overhauled Bellenden's translation of the book, which ends with the reign of James I., in 1437. Nothing there about Beane or cannibalism whatever, and the same result awaited me on consulting Buchanan's History. Neither Justiciary records, ancient trials, contemporary gossip, nor parochial accounts show us any distinct trace of the sanguinary cateran. But there is something in Pitscottie, scene laid in Fofarshire, in a glack of the Sidlaw Hills, near Newtyle, and the time is 1450-60, only 150 years before—near enough, I suppose. The name of the wretch is not given: he is simply called a brigand, his victims were comparatively few in number, and the burnings took place in Dundee. That, I feel certain, is the "fons et origo" of the subsequent yabber. What has it to do with the circumstantial history of Sawney Beane? It is no use replying in an equivocal fashion: let the Newcastle man do that. He positively stated it as indubitable fact that the atrocities of Sawney Beane were committed during the reign of James VI. (1567 to 1603) ere his accession to the English throne. He was simply repeating a clumsy falsehood.

Crockett will be an authority now, and the elaborated lie will get a new lease of vitality. The Newcastle man, quoting from "Lives of Pirates and Robbers," stated that Sawney was born in Tranent, drifted into crime, and fled into Galloway, living in a cave on the northern shore of the Solway Firth, and with his numerous progeny perpetrated most appalling crimes. Eventually, after 24 years of revolting life, the Haddington Cacus was tracked to his cave by means of bloodhounds, arrested with his gang, and all burnt on Leith Sands, in three separate fires. There were Sawney and his wife, 8 sons, 6 daughters, 18 grandsons, and 14 granddaughters—48 altogether. Surely this horrible holocaust on the sands of Leith would have been remembered and talked about for many years thereafter? But no—not a word. Leith historians are silent upon the matter; the Scotsman's (what a charitable fellow he is!) assumption will be that they were unwilling to publish the terrific record, and left the task to the Newcastle simpleton. By the way, let me assure "W. S." that St Jerome's accusation of cannibalism is trotted out as proof positive that the Scots were addicted to that inhuman custom—no Irish will be allowed to apply in that case.

Then, again, that damnable cave in Galloway, which was stated to have resembled the Cretan Labyrinth, what has become of it? Has it collapsed altogether, with such a weight of infamy clinging to it? I cannot detect it in Galloway guide-books. "Sawney Beane's Cave" would be a great draw for the inquisitive tourist; but it cannot be discovered. Some enterprising individual ought to try and find a suitable hole—"there is money in it," as speculators say.

The Novocastrian winds up his blether with this choice calculation, "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest it," if we can:—"The number of people that Sawney Beane and his clan had killed could never be exactly known; but it was reckoned that during the 25 years they had revelled in their inhuman career they had washed their hands in the blood of above one thousand (1000) men, women, and children."

Am I to be reproved for investigating this specious yet outrageous calumny, and showing it to be a mass of delirious nonsense? When it is subjected to a strict analysis, it shrivels at once into formless falsehood, having not a shred of contemporary evidence to support or countenance it. What is said to have happened in Dundee 150 years earlier is not, and cannot be, justification for trumping up a diabolical lie, and impudently claiming it as historical fact.

I alluded in my previous article to that other Cockney fable of Sweeny Todd, the demon barber of Gray's Inn Lane, which surpasses that of the burking of the Italian boy. Both are much in vogue with Londoners, and are greedily absorbed by an awe-struck crowd, who retail them afterwards with embellishments. The only way to treat both it and the Sawney Beane fiction is to receive them with a burst of uncontrollable laughter, as unworthy of sober argument. Of course, I know that the cannibal legend of Sawney Beane will still flourish south of the Tweed. We might as well attempt to snatch a tit-bit from the jaws of one of their bull-dogs that they praise so loudly as upset a scandalous untruth which has had a century of circulation: but I hope that any of my young countrymen, whose hard lot it may be to settle there, will remember that the story of Sawney Beane is a fabrication, and not so credible as the life of that Cornish champion, "Jack the Giant-Killer."

ALBA.

Melbourne, Australia.

"The Gretna Green Parson."

On 2nd January, 1811, there died at Gretna Green, at the age of 79, the celebrated Joseph Pasley, who was known by the name of "The Gretna Green Parson." He was born at Kirkandrew upon Esk, in Cumberland, and early in life was bound an apprentice to a tobacconist, but this vocation, requiring sobriety and attention, ill accorded with his disposition, and he soon left it to follow the employment of a fisherman. He frequently swallowed a pint of undiluted brandy at one draught.—"Aberdeen Journal."

Drs Moir and Maginn.

The conjunction of the names of David Macbeth Moir and William Maginn may seem odd at first sight, as, beyond the fact of both being literary lights, they shone in different spheres—one a contemplative country physician, and the other an LL.D. of erratic fancy; nevertheless, they have been associated together, resulting in the complete occultation of the Scot. I will explain. In an American book of humorous and burlesque poetry, which I looked over some years ago, I noticed that two parodies are attributed to Maginn which were actually written by Dr Moir, the "Delta" of "Blackwood's Magazine," in which they first appeared. One was "The Rime of the Auncient Waggoner"—a parody on Coleridge's "Ancient Mariner"; and the other "The Eve of St Jerry"—a parody on Scott's ballad, "The Eve of St John." They appear likewise in English collections as Maginn's handiwork. The genial Irishman required no such adventitious fame fathered upon him; and the persistent ascription of such parodies to Maginn only shows the stubborn English disbelief that a Scot can be witty or humorous either in prose or verse. This prejudice is inexpugnable.

"Delta's" contributions to "Blackwood's Magazine" were 370 articles altogether, only a moiety of which have been republished in book form. Mr Thomas Aird, in his life of Dr Moir, prefixed to a selection from his poems (2 vols., 1851), writes—"Besides his regular contributions of grave poetry bearing the usual signature of 'Delta,' he was now pouring forth in the magazine all manner of jocularities in prose and verse—familiar letters and rhyming epistles from O'Doherty, mock-heroic specimens of translations from Horace, Christmas carols by the fancy contributors Mullion and the rest, Cockney love songs, puns and parodies, freaks and fantasies endless, all little wotted of by the world as coming from him. Maginn has generally got the credit of Moir's squibs, 'The Eve of St Jerry,' 'The Ancient Waggoner,' 'Billy Routing,' etc."

Again, in "Delta's" memoir of Dr Macnish, his friend and literary associate, published in 1838, he states that he (Dr Moir) visited Coleridge during the summer of 1832, when the great poet was residing with Mr Gillman at Hampstead, and "endured two hours of divine monologue with him." "Delta" then specifically states—"In one of his conversations I see that Mr C. imputes some imitations of his more remarkable compositions (to which I plead guilty) to Dr Maginn, a much abler man. They were dashed off 20 years ago (1818) in no unkind spirit, and it is pleasing to know that the author felt this." The parodies were on "The Ancient Mariner," "Christabel," and "Kubla Khan." Now, when Maginn could not consistently be held to be the author, and the Scot's claims were demonstrated beyond cavil, the candid English critics shifted their ground at once, as is their wont, and maintained that the parodies had no merit whatever. So long as Maginn was paraded as the writer, there was the customary palaver of Irish espiegleric and drollery; but when it was proved to be of Scottish origin, it was sneered at and contemned. "Veritas odium parit."

In a memoir of Maginn prefixed to his "Shakespeare Papers" (1860), it is recorded—"The peculiar quality of his genius, the broad scope of his wit, his practical knowledge of life and human nature, and his thorough insight into political trickery were, indeed, brilliantly displayed in the whole series of papers contributed to Blackwood under the sobriquet of Ensign O'Doherty." This is a mistake, and a common one; but it is hopeless to expect rectification now. However, truth is not to be concealed under a torrent of English abuse. Captain Thomas Hamilton (a younger brother of the celebrated logician, Sir William Hamilton), who had served in the Peninsula and America, was the originator of the papers in question, in which he narrated some of his campaigning adventures and barrack-room reminiscences, interspersed with snatches of song and rollicking verses. Captain Hamilton was author of "Cyril Thornton," "Annals of the Peninsular Campaign," "Men and Manners in America," etc. The O'Doherty papers became popular, and Wilson, Lockhart, Macnish, and Moir all used the name as a vehicle for their fun. The ensign was promoted to major, and then adjutant, and finally became Sir Morgan O'Doherty. Maginn did not write for "Blackwood's Magazine" until years after. One slight peculiarity (which I point out as a printer's reader) is that in the opening chapter the hero's name is printed Odoherty. Now, no educated Irishman would write the name in that incorrect fashion; but Captain Hamilton was careless. When Maginn joined the corps, he instantly identified himself with the mythical Milesian, and consequently has got the credit of the whole series. I believe those papers were the precursors of the famous "Noctes Ambrosianæ."

In "Delta's" "Autobiography of Mansie Waugh" a laughable story is told of how, during the scare of a French invasion, the Highland Fencibles were cantoned in tents adjacent to Dalkeith, to accustom them to the privations of expected

warfare; and that beef-money was given to the soldiers to buy meat, which they cooked outside their tents. An officer was required to inspect the cooking-pots, to see that the soldiers had the "vivers," for which they got extra pay. One drouthy rogue, Private Duncan M'Alpine, always had tripe for his dinner when Lieutenant Todrick made his rounds. This generated suspicion in the lieutenant's mind, and on the next visitation he stuck a bayonet into the mess, and fished up the leg of a pair of buckskin breeches, which had been doing duty as tripe for some time, the inference being that the scamp had spent his ration-money on whisky. "Delta" tells the story with much archness, winding up with the keen observation of the inspector—"Never did I see boiled tripe afore wi' buttons an' button-holes in't."

This story has formed the basis of an Irish comic song, "Pat Hegarty's Leather Breeches," which may be the handiwork of Maginn himself, for it is clever enough; but "Delta's" droll anecdote suggested the theme of the song, which has been praised as the funniest in the language. It informs us that Pat was an eating-house keeper near Clonmel, and when there was nothing eatable in the larder one winter's evening he was awakened by a mob of "bhoys" who demanded food. Here was a dilemma. He had no meat, but—happy thought!—he had his ould breeches. What then?

"So he cut them in stripes in the way they do tripes,
And he boiled them his ould leather breeches."

During the banquet ensuing the finding of an ivory button still adhering to the "mate" precipitates a climax and a general ruction. Moir's story is feasible, but its Irish counterpart scarcely so.

I had a very pleasing proof afforded me some time ago of the warm esteem manifested towards the memory of "Delta" out here in Australia. In company with an old friend, I visited the homestead of a substantial farmer named Gourlay, on the banks of the Broken River, 120 miles up-country from Melbourne. Mr Gourlay was a "grand old man" indeed—tall, powerful, and of dignified and pleasing manners, with a fine family of grown-up sons, daughters, and grandchildren. On learning that I had been recently in Scotland, he eagerly asked me if I had visited Musselburgh. I said I had, my motive being to see Dr Moir's statue and his grave in Inveresk Kirkyard. "Ay, ay," said Mr Gourlay, "I ken, aboon the stane steps at the tap o' the brae leadin' intill the kirkyard." He went into an adjoining room, and brought out a large handsome photograph of "Delta's" monument and the bridge across the Esk. "I'll never see that monument," said the old patriarch, with a tremor in his voice; "but I kent Dr Moir in actual life when I was a young lad, for I'm a Musselburgh bairn mysel', an' I'll say this o' him, that a kinder, better, and nobler man than he never existed." It was a spontaneous tribute of affection for the departed poet.

ALBA.

Melbourne, Australia.

"The Churches of Aberdeen."

Quite recently, there was issued from the office of the "Aberdeen Daily Journal" a handsome quarto volume, bearing the title "The Churches of Aberdeen: Historical and Descriptive." The author is Mr Alexander Gammie, better known, perhaps, to those interested in the Church life of Aberdeen and the north as "Ecclesiasticus" of the "Evening Express." The ecclesiastical life of our "braid toun" has been sadly neglected by historians, but here at last we have an encyclopædia of local religious life, from the foundation of each church to the present day. And this is the strong point in Mr Gammie's work—he has given us a historical description of every church and religious body in Aberdeen, as well as supplying interesting biographical notes of ministers and workers; and one has only to be reminded that there are 95 religious houses in Aberdeen in order to understand the scope of the work. This should prove a valuable work of reference to the antiquary, in so far as he will be able to trace the whereabouts of any person prominently connected with the ecclesiastical affairs of the city. Many eminent men have, at one time or another, been connected with the churches of Aberdeen; and the portraits of these, presented to us in Mr Gammie's racy style, are both interesting and enlightening. The book is greatly enhanced by a large variety of portraits and illustrations, and a full index.

A READER.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1835.

10th January. At Yrban Lodge, Miss Jane Gordon, daughter of the late Rev. George William Algernon Gordon, Minister of Keith.

4th February. At Kintore, in his 57th year, Mr William Buchan, M.A., schoolmaster, of New Machar.

3rd February. At Old Deer, in her 85th year, Jean Henderson, Midwife. During her 50 years' practice she ushered into the world upwards of 1500 children, and what is very remarkable is that not a single woman died under her charge.

22nd February. At Glasgow, Mrs Margaret Grant, relict of Peter Grant, Drumbain, Morayshire, and daughter of the late Alexander Grant, Esq. of Grantfield, Midmar, in her 83rd year.

27th February. At Florence, Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. James Forbes, Master of Forbes.

10th March. At Aberdeen, in his 65th year, William Dyce, M.D., and F.R.S.E.

13th March. Here, in her 80th year, Mrs Annie Wilson, relict of Rev. William Fraser, Minister of Tyrie.

12th March. Here, in his 47th year, Rev. Charles Fraser, Roman Catholic Clergyman.

3rd April. John Cushny, sixth son of Rev. Alexander Cushny, Oyne [in his 33rd year].

3rd April. At Crown Street, Mary Ross, wife of William Ailardyce, wine merchant, and on the same day Elizabeth Young, his eldest daughter, aged 4.

6th April. At Peterhead, in his 42nd year, Ogilvie Will, Postmaster, and agent to the Aberdeen Town and County Bank.

14th April. At Aberdeen aged 72, George Sanderson, Esq., factor to his Grace the Duke of Gordon, at Durris.

16th April. At Aberdeen, aged 25, Katherine Ann Buchan Forbes, wife of William M'Combie of Easter Skene, and daughter of the late Major Alexander Forbes of Inverernan.

29th April. At Ledmore, Mr James Watson, senior, formerly tenant of Balquhadlie, in his 81st year. He was one of the oldest practical farmers in Kincardineshire, and had attended the great annual fair of Trinity-Muir seventy times in succession.

25th May. At Blackhills, Skene, Rev. John Smith, Minister of the Congregational Church there, aged 56. . .

4th June. At Glassel House, Mrs Michell of Glassel, relict of John Michell, Esq., Younger of Forcett, Yorkshire.

30th June. Here, Jane Hogg, sister of the late Rev. James Hogg, D.D., minister of Skene, in her 83rd year.

13th July. At Old Meldrum, Mr James Murray, Medical Practitioner.

20th July. At Cotton Lodge, William Pirie, Esq., manufacturer in Aberdeen, aged 52.

16th July. At Burns' Street, Dumfries, Mrs Ann Burns, aged 63, wife of Mr Robert Burns, retired officer, of Somerset House, and eldest son of the bard. . . .

2nd August. Maria [Thorp], beloved wife of Major-General Sir Alexander Leith, K.C.B. of Freefield.

1st August. At Glenbervie House, Mrs Helen Mitchell Nicolson of Glenbervie.

27th July. At the Schoolhouse, Binse, Elizabeth Ross, wife of Mr James Smith, Parochial Schoolmaster there.

11th August. At Banff, Alexander Chalmers, Esq. of Clunie, aged 70.

16th August. At St Andrews, Miss Burnett of Monboddo.

9th September. At Peterhead, John Skelton, Esq., merchant and shipowner.

9th November. At Manse of Strachan, Rev. J. G. Garioch, minister of Strachan, in his 43rd year.

17th November. At Meldrum James Urquhart of Meldrum, Esq., in his 77th year, who for 50 years was Sheriff-Depute of Banff.

24th December. At Aberdeen, Mrs Ann Brown, relict of Rev. George Allan, Minister of Newhills, aged 72.

24th December. At Candacraig, Major John Anderson of Candacraig, aged 45.

1836.

11th January. At Nethermuir, John Gordon, Esq. of Nethermuir, aged 69.

13th January. Here, in his 61st year, Rev. James Cordiner, A.M., Senior Minister of St Paul's Chapel.

17th January. At Banchory-Devenick, after a few days' illness, Mr Robert Adam, Schoolmaster there, in 45th year.

19th January. At Parkhill, Samuel Emslie, Esq. of Tullochvenus, aged 73.

29th February. At Dundee, aged 55, Livingston Booth, Esq., merchant and shipowner, Aberdeen.

5th March. At Broomend, Mr James Smith, Schoolmaster of Kintore and Student of Divinity [aged 27].

12th March. At Stonehaven, Mr John Murray, writer.

27th March. At Aberdeen, Mrs Helen Anderson, widow of Alexander Anderson, Esq. of Candacraig, in her 80th year.

29th March. At Aberdeen, John Dingwall, Esq. of Ardo, aged 75.

17th April. At Aberdeen, Mrs Jean Malcolm, spouse of Mr John Wilson of Auchindeck, Skene.

17th April. At Daviot, Catherine Lyon, wife of Rev. James Clark, Schoolmaster of that parish.

10th April. At London, Captain Adam Gordon Duff, late of the 14th Light Dragoons, son of the late Major-General Duff of Carnousie.

1st May. At Auchronie, Kinellar, Bell Grant, aged 85, relict of Alexander Glennie. The deceased Alexander Glennie and Bell Grant formed the subject of an amusing and well-known ballad, entitled the "Canty Carly," or the "Raveled Bridal of Auchronie."

8th May. Here, Elizabeth Black, relict of James Young, merchant in Aberdeen, in her 85th year.

29th April. At Sunny Bank, Alexander More, Esq., late Collector of Customs, aged 80.

12th May. At Gilston, Huntly, Andrew M'Pherson, Esq., aged 57.

2nd July. At Manse of Rathen, Mary, wife of Rev. William Cock.

16th July. Here, John Tiron, Esq., manufacturer, aged 66.

31st August. At Willowbank, in her 77th year, Elizabeth Innes, relict of Rev. Robert Farquharson of Allargue, Minister of Leslie-Coldstone.

10th September. At London, Charles M'Combie, Esq. of Tillyfour, aged 66.

14th September. Lately at Braemoray, John Ross, aged 59, a tenant on Lord Moray's property, known by the name of "Big John." He was the tallest and stoutest man in all that country, being 6ft. 8ins. in height, and proportionately well built and powerful.

16th October. At Rothney, Miss Gordon of Rothney.

5th October. At Strathpeffer, Mr William Hay, Parochial Schoolmaster of Huntly.

24th October. At Cheltenham, Lady Grant, relict of Sir Archibald Grant of Monymusk, and eldest daughter of the ancient family of M'Leod of Lewis.

26th October. At 74 Dee Street, Aberdeen, Mrs Angus, relict of Rev. Alexander Angus, Minister of Botriphnie, aged 85.

14th November. At Do., her sister, Mrs Gerard, relict of George Gerard, jun., Esq., of Midstrath, aged 75.

1st November. Harry Gordon, Esq. of Knockespock.

20th November. At Peterhead, Jane Ferguson, relict of James Hutchison, merchant, Peterhead.

9th December. At Bourtie Manse, Mary Bannerman Lessel, wife of Rev. James Bisset, Minister of Bourtie.

27th December. At Aberdeen, in her 81st year, Mrs Forbes Mitchell, sen. of Thainston.

22nd December. Here, in her 77th year, Mrs Thomson, wife of Rev. Dr Thomson, Minister of St Clement's, Aberdeen.

23rd December. Here, Mrs Jean Jopp, widow of Gavin Young, Esq., aged 82.

24th December. At Manse of Midmar, Rev. George Middleton, in his 84th year.

Queries.

420. "Wirreit and Bruxt."—What does this old legal term mean?

Y.

421. George Milne, Writer, Stonehaven.—He was the son of George Milne, shoemaker, Aberdeen, and Elspet Chalmers, his wife. He married Mary Young, daughter of James Young, Sheriff-Substitute of Kincardineshire, and died from the effects of a fall from his house on 7th August, 1798, aged 34 years. His widow died 5th December, 1843, aged 76 years. Are there any descendants? Who were his maternal grandparents? His brother was purser on Nelson's flagship Victory. Particulars regarding his career would oblige.

Charles Michie.

422. Rev. William Lawson.—Rev. William Lawson, who was for some time minister of the English Episcopal Chapel at Old Deer, advertised in June, 1816, that he was ready to receive "six young gentlemen for Board and Education." Mr Lawson had previously been in the habit of preparing the sons of English families for Eton and the English Universities. The names of any scholars thus educated at Old Deer will oblige.

A. B.

423. Captain Murray Farquharson.—This officer died somewhere near Aberdeen about the middle of the last century. Particulars as to his parentage and history, with the date and place of death, would oblige.

Braemar.

Answers.

409. William Abernethy of Crimonmogate.—Colonel Thomas Abernethy (son of William Abernethy of Crimonmogate), sometime of the Royal Marines, died at Exeter, on 10th May, 1840, in his 82nd year.

T. Y.

410. Barony of Strachan.—Strachan Barony formerly embraced Gellan, Currans, Cammie, and Mosside, and extended to upwards of 35,000 acres. A very full description will be found in an advertisement of the sale of the barony which appeared in the "Aberdeen Journal" of October 2, 1822.

R. D.

413. William Barclay, Solicitor, Banff.—Mr Barclay married at 3 Dewar Place, Edinburgh, on 25th June, 1840, Margaret, second daughter of the late Captain James Macdonald.

T. Y.

No. 96.—February 16, 1910.

The Great Families of Angus.

There is an interesting article on "Angus" in the January number of the "Quarterly Review"—written, it is understood, by Mr James Ferguson of Kinmundy, Sheriff of Forfarshire—from which we extract the following:—

The most powerful of the great houses of Angus were the Lindsays and the Ogilvies, and the estates of both were largely situated on the border between the Highlands and the Lowlands. It was a fact of no little importance that two such families were planted at the issues of the Highland glens, and that the "caterans" and "broken men" who dwelt in their recesses were bridled by neighbours so ready to set the lance in rest. The character of both races was affected by their geographical situation. The Earl of Airlie—"pace" the competing claims of the house of Inverquharity—was chief of the "Siol Gilchrist," as well as feudal Lord of Ogilvy. The Earl of Crawford was not only "Lord the Lyndissay," but the head of a "pridefu' kin," and in their relations to their kinsmen and tenants, and the spirit of both races, there was little difference between the descendant of the Celtic Mormaer and the Norman knight. Both great branches of the progeny of Gilbert de Ogilvy, the brother of Gilchrist, one of the old Celtic earls, remain at Cortachy and Baldovan. But the curse of Cardinal Beaton, that every future Lindsay might be poorer than his father, was fulfilled in the fortunes at least of the elder branches of the houses of Crawford and Edzell, and their name remains in one landed family alone. The Angus Lindsays attained the height of their prosperity when, for one generation, their oldest earldom blossomed into the Dukedom of Montrose; but, in spite of the gallant efforts of one or two of their name of character and attainments, a series of turbulent and reckless generations dissipated estates that once embraced about two-third of Angus. "The Evil Master" began the process; to "a princely man, but a sad spendthrift," succeeded "the Prodigal Earl"; and in the days of "the Troubles," "the loyal Earl" was not likely to recover the situation. No more pathetic story of the fall of a great house exists than that in which the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres tells how the last of the loudly line of Edzell, whose princely hospitality won for their castle the name of "the kitchen of Angus," passed into obscurity beyond the Pentland Firth, and how the lady of Airlie, "the proud bird out of the eagle's nest," came for a last look at the deserted halls.

The rights and lands of the Celtic Mormaers were forfeited by the Umphravilles in the time of Robert the Bruce. The earldom was then conferred on Sir John Stewart of Bonkyl, whose heiress, three generations later, became the third wife of the Earl of Douglas, and their son the first of the Douglas Earls of Angus. The branch of Angus ultimately succeeded to the honours of Douglas, and the remains of the Mormaers' land belong to their representative, the Earl of Home. The old thanage of Glamis, the dowry of a royal princess in the fourteenth century, remains the central possession of the Lyons, Earls of Strathmore. The line of Carnegie of that Ilk, which has annexed the two great rivers of the shire as its twin titles of honour, has adorned Northern Angus with the lofty towers and princely park of Kinnaird, and the walls of Ethie with the records of naval service to the State. The old possessions of the Norman houses of de Valoniis and Maule, increased by the acquisition in later years of the heritage of the de Brechins, of whom the Maules were already the rightful representatives, have passed by marriage to the Ramsays of Dalhousie, and both the monument on the hill above Panmure, and the building which contains his generous benefaction to Brechin, keep green the memory of that strange but popular figure whose motto was "Live and let live," and who is diversely known as "the wicked Lord Panmure" and "the Father of Reform in Scotland." The well in Glenesk records the visit of Queen Victoria to his distinguished son.

The territorial connection of the Grahams with the ancient thanage of old Montrose, from which they had taken their title since the days of William the Lyon, terminated in the days of "the great Cavalier." Of the branches of Claverhouse, Duntrune, and Morphie, the last alone remains, but the name of Dundee is for ever associated with that gallant Graham known to the Westland Whigs as "Bluidy Claverse," and to the Highlanders as "Dark John of the Battles." At an earlier period the title of Earl of Dundee was borne by the Scrymgeours of Dudhope, on whose ancestor, Alexander Carron, King Alexander the First, whom he saved from conspiracy at Invergowrie, had conferred the name of "Scrymgeour" (or "hardy fighter"), to which either he or William the Lyon had added the office of hereditary standard-bearer of Scotland. A later representative of the same family received from Wallace, as Guardian of the realm, the office of Constable of Dundee. The classic pile of Camperdown House, and the huge figure-head of the Vryheid, recall the long weeks when, with mutiny at the Nore and a skeleton fleet Admiral Duncan held the mouth of the Texel and how he broke the naval power of Holland on its own low shore.

The castles and country houses of Angus are illustrative of its history. A few have their awe-inspiring traditions of the supernatural and the mysterious. The sealed chamber of Glamis holds its strange secret, and local superstition may maintain that the Tiger Earl of Crawford still plays on there, awaiting the change in luck that will never come till the day of judgment. The drummer-boy of Airlie may still beat his summons around the towers of Cor

tachy, and the tread of the cardinal's foot echo on the stone stair of Ethie. The barefooted boy may walk from Finhaven while there grows a chestnut tree, and the white lady of Careston flit through the wood, bewildered by the vicissitudes of its ownership. The memory of the "Black Earl" and his more than human knowledge may haunt Kinnaird, and a kindlier halo illumine that turret-room on the slopes of the Sidlaws, where, in time of plague, Ballantyne set himself to preserve the ballad poetry of Scotland. The massive though riven tower of Finhaven, the carved masonry and stately yards of Edzell, the crumbling ruins of Vayno and Inverqueich recall how the grasp of fate closed on the heart of "the Licht Lindsays." Forthar never recovered the rough handling of the Campbells, but Airlie and Cortachy record the growth and changing conditions of the family that owns them. The iron "yetts" of Inverquharity, for which the royal licence of James II. exists, and of Invermark, tell of a time when the strong man who lived on the Highland border had to keep well his house. From the old tower of Guthrie, with its ten-feet walls, father and son "of that ilk," descendants of "the Squire Guthrie" that fought with Wallace, rode to their rest on the fatal field of Flodden. Mains of Strathdichty has replaced the earlier castle of the old Earls of Angus, and the ruins of Red Castle recall the time of Baliol, as well as the ruffianly raid when Gray of Blackjack nearly suffocated Lady Innermeath with smoke. Panmure is an example of the stately building of a great noble at the time of the Restoration. Brechin occupies the site of the castle so gallantly defended against the great Plantagenet, and Glamis, the most famous of all, unites traditions of hoary antiquity with traces of the genius of Inigo Jones. "No other castle in Scotland," says Billings, "probably stands in this day so characteristic a type of feudal pomp and power. It by no means detracts from the solemn grandeur of the edifice and its overawing influence that it conveys no distinct impression of any particular age, but appears to have grown, as it were, through the various periods of Scottish baronial architecture." No district of Scotland exhibits more fully the combination of ancient associations with modern comfort, and the varied origin of landed property in old inheritance, in military and naval service to the State, and in strenuous and successful industry and commerce.

The Fisherfolks of Aberdeen.

In a review of three volumes of songs in the "Westminster Review," Vol. 38, 1838, the writer takes occasion to point out that, on account of the greater density of the population, and the extraordinary and daily increasing facilities that population possesses for bringing all its parts into contact with each other, all the more salient points of character or individuality are worn away, and we cease to look within the boundaries of our own town for anything strikingly distinctive. But the writer admits that there are many exceptions to this rule, and he proceeds to cite the "Fitty" community as having characteristics entirely different from the inhabitants of Aberdeen. We quote the following from this "digression"; and it may be interesting to set down here that this same "digression" appeared in the "Penny Magazine" for 26th September, 1840, under the heading "The Fish-People of Aberdeen":—

This handsome and flourishing town [Aberdeen] consists of about sixty thousand inhabitants, who are distinguished even in Scotland for their shrewdness. At the mouth of the river Dee, and in two squares, called Fishers' Squares, separated from the rest of the town by only a few dockyards, are a race of people who differ more in dialect, customs, superstitions, and other peculiarities, from the Aberdonians, than the latter do from any of the other inhabitants of the lowlands of Scotland. They are a completely separate community; and their dialect is so different from that of the working classes of Aberdeen that, though the two races have a sufficient number of words in common for transacting business with each other, most of the words used by the "Foot-Dee" or "Fittie folk," among themselves are unintelligible to the "Aberdeen folk." If a native of Aberdeen were to wander into the square inhabited by the "Fittie folk," who are almost all fishers and pilots, he would run no little risk of being pelted out again with stones and haddock-heads. The "Fittie folk" scarcely ever intermarry with the other citizens. Their marriages are generally "penny weddings." They seldom send their children to school, and almost never to a promiscuous one. Their sons are almost invariably brought up to follow the occupations of their forefathers, and never learn any regular trades, except that, perhaps, now and then, a youth, more adventurous than usual, becomes a ship-carpenter. They live together patriarchally, sometimes three or four generations in a single room. The oars are laid above them on the couples (or rafters) of their cottages; the children may be seen sleeping on nets in corners; and on the walls are creels, baskets, and other fishing tackle. Their boats descend by primogeniture. Their women have not merely a costume different at all times from that of women in a similar rank of life in Aberdeen (distinguished by an all but exclusive preference for the colours white and blue, and consisting generally of a blue-striped wrapper, blue baize petticoat, and close cap, called a "toy mutch," with "moggins," or stockings without feet, and they wear no shoes); but they also adopt very generally the masculine blue jackets of their husbands and brothers. The men do little more than go out with the boats. The women search for bait, assist in carrying the nets, bait the hooks, and do all drudgery, while their lords are looking on with folded arms. The women, both of Foot-Dee and those of the same race

in several other villages on the east coast of Scotland, carry great loads of fish to market on market days in creels (large wicker baskets which are fastened to their shoulders, and rest on their hips), sometimes as many as eleven miles before breakfast; and so necessary does the load become to them, to enable them to walk steady, that when they are returning home, they prefer carrying stones to carrying an empty creel. They never walk but in single file, and they have a superstitious dread of being counted, a fear of which the boys of Aberdeen avail themselves to annoy them by crying as they pass—

"One, two, three,
What a lot of fisher nannies I see."

A salutation equally dreaded by them is the cry, "A baud's fit in yer creel"—that is, the point of a hare's foot is in your creel. This saying derived its meaning from the circumstance that a hare was seen to run through their "fish town" on the evening preceding a day on which a great number of their people were lost at sea. To point at their boats with the fore-finger is the surest way of offending them. Among these people all the superstitions which useful knowledge is banishing from the homes of the poor still flourish. The belief in lucky days and omens of stars and clouds is to the present hour a practical faith under the low, thatched roofs of those squares of white cottages among the sandhills of the sandy beach at the mouth of the Dee, occupied by this curious race who still tremble with the fear that a neglect of these things would bring great evils down upon their heads. They observe Old Christmas, and all their transactions and calculations are made by old style, to which they tenaciously hold, saying, "New style is man's makin', but auld style is Guid's." Aberdeen is full of stories of the fisherfolk. A "Fittie lassie" once visited London, and, on seeing St Paul's, exclaimed—"This dings the kirk o' Fittie." A woman of this class went to the Post Office and asked for a letter "from oor Jock." She was asked what was her name or her husband's, but she exclaimed—"I'se behaud you!" The chief article of trade is "Finnan Haddocks." Finnan (Findon) is a small village famous only for its fishery, situated about six miles south of Aberdeen. Of the excellence of this fish, perhaps the most decisive proof that can be given is that the burghs on the Firth of Forth and other places have regular manufactories of a spurious article, which they vend under its name, and doubtless to the detriment of its reputation among the deceived but unsuspicious purchasers.

A Reader.

Bonnie Annie Laurie's Will.

The last will and testament of the heroine of the song "Maxwelton Braes are Bonnie" is being exhibited in an antiquarian collection at Dumfries. The following is a copy of the document, which has never been previously exposed in public:—

"I, Anna Laurie, spouse to Alexander Fergussone of Craigdarroch, Forasmuchas, I considering it a dewtie upon everie parsone whylo they are in health and sound judgment so to settle yr. worldly affairs that yrby all animosities betwixt friend and relatives may obviat, and also for the singular love and respect I have for the said Alexander Fergussone, in caise he survive me, I do heirby make my letter will as follows: First, I recommend my soule to God, hoping by the meritorious righteousness of Jesus Christ to be saved; secondly, I recommend my body to be decently and orderly interred; and in the third place nominate and appoynt the said Alexander Fergussone to be my sole and only executor, legator, and universall intrometter with my huill goods, gear, debts, and soume off money that shall pertain and belong to me the tyme off my decease or shall be dew to me by bill, bond, or anyway: with power to him to obtain himself confirmed and decreed exr. to me and to do everie thing for fixing and establishing the right off my spouse in his person as law requires: in witness whereoff thir putts: (written? be John Wilsone off chapell, wryter in Dumfrise) are subd. by me at Craigdarroch, the twenty-eight day of Apryle, Jajvij and eleven (1711) years, befor the witnesses the sd. Johno Wilsonne and John Nicholsone his servitor.—Ann Laurie: Jo. Wilsone, witness: John Hoat, witnes."

H. A.

Brodies in Aberdeenshire.

(Continued from No. 81—November 3, 1909).

Kildrummy, Vol. 1. Births—1631-1821; Marriages—1678-1800.

1686. March 14. Alexander Brodie and Jean Gordon, first proclamation. Second proclamation 21st March and the third on 27th March.

1692. Alexander Brody's name appears.

1735. November 23. John Broady in Mossat, a son David.

1739. October 16. John Brody in Goals had a son Charles. Witnesses—Robert Cumine and William Frost, indwellers in Govals.

1768. August 14. David Brody in this parish, and Margaret Ferres, parish of Leochel, were married August 21.

Strathdon—Marriages.

1853. March 20. John Reid, Ardler, and Isobel Brodie, Ardler. Second and third proclamation 27th March, 1853. Married on 29th March by the Rev. Robert Meiklejohn.

Nellfield Cemetery, Aberdeen.

A headstone bears—

Erected / by / Donald M'Nicol (late) Inld. Revenue, / in memory of his wife, / Isabella

Brodie, / who died 23rd May, 1890, aged 40 years. / Also their children—Donald Harvey, / died 2nd Feb., 1874, aged 3 months. / John Brodie, / died 14th March, 1886, aged 7 years. / Mary Isabella Grassick, Martha Montgomery, Albert John—died in infancy. Lair 1235.

Isabella Brodie was the only daughter of William Brodie in Belnaglack, and his wife, Mary Grassick. (Glenbuchat Births). She married, on 18th December, 1872, Donald M'Nicol, fourth son of Donald M'Nicol, gamekeeper, Glenbuchat Lodge, and his wife, Martha Montgomery. Isabella Brodie died at 27 Thistle Street, Aberdeen. Her husband (who has furnished me with these particulars), was born on 31st March, 1845, at Auchline, Glendochart, parish of Killin, Perthshire. They had—

(1) Donald Harvey M'Nicol, born at Tongue, Sutherlandshire, 26th October, 1873; died there 2nd February, 1874.

(2) William Alexander M'Nicol, born at Tongue, Sutherlandshire, 15th March, 1875. Was situated in Durban, Natal, in 1906.

(3) James Montgomery, M'Nicol, born at Tongue, Sutherlandshire, 28th July, 1877. Was situated in Glasgow in 1906.

(4) John Brodie M'Nicol, born at Morangie, Tain, Ross-shire, 10th August, 1879, died at Aberdeen 14th March, 1886.

(5) Nicol M'Nicol, born at Morangie, Tain, Ross-shire, 3rd November, 1881. Was situated in Liverpool in 1906.

(6) Mary Isabella Grassick M'Nicol, born at Morangie, Tain, Ross-shire, 3rd July, 1884, died at Tain, 18th July, 1884.

(7) Martha Montgomery M'Nicol, born at Aberdeen, 6th August, 1886, died at Aberdeen, September, 1886.

(8) Albert John M'Nicol, born at Aberdeen 17th April, 1888, died at Aberdeen, May, 1888.

ELGIN CATHEDRAL BURIAL GROUND.

Inserted in the east wall, a wall monument is inscribed—

This is the Buri / all Place of John / Hay, Mert. in Elgin, / and Katherine Brodie, his spouse, / with their chil / dren. Also here lyes / the body of Katha / rine Russell, / spouse / to John Dumbar, / Mertt. in Elgin, and / grand mother to / the said Katherine Brodie, who dyed / the 25 of Janry., 1723.

To the right another beare—

This is the Burial Place / of Anna Dumbar, spouse / to Robert Allan, senior, / Mert. in Elgin, who died 2d / March, 1732, and James and Mary / Allan, his children, and John / Dumbar, late Baylie of Elgin, and Jannet Brodie, his spouse. / Job xiv., 12. Man that is born of / woman is of few days and full of trouble. / He cometh forth like a flower and is cut / [d]own. He fleeth also as a shadow and com[eth] / not. Job xix., 25, 26, 27. I. Thess. iv., 14 / . . . 12. . . . [T]he end of all tribulation. / . . . To wise men a sweet consolation.

At the foot sundry emblems—glass, angel, and skull.

I am indebted to Mr H. Duff MacWilliam of Harrow View, for the undernoted references:—

1632. Augusti 5. "Georg Gordoun maried with Isob. Brodie, both in this paroch." (Inveravon Parish Registers.)

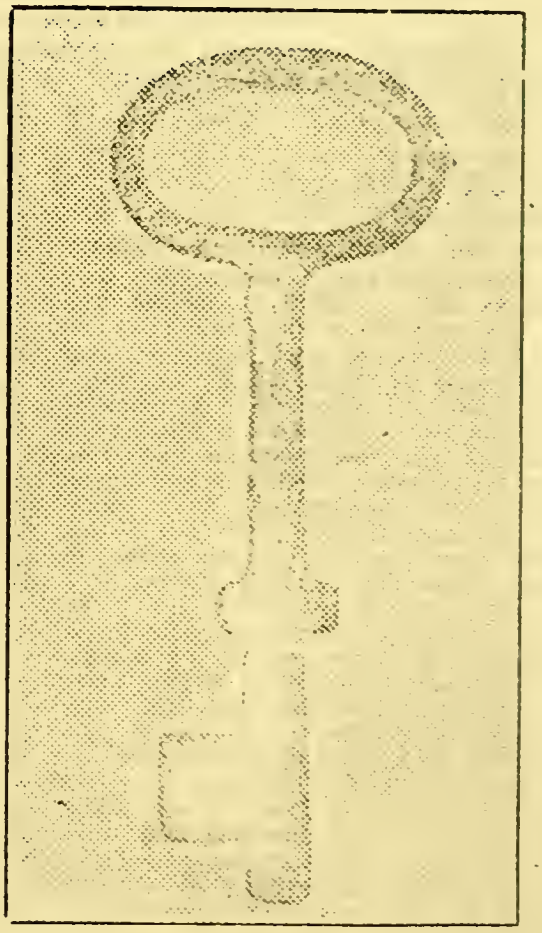
1639. July 28. "George Gordonne in Achbreck, his lawll sonne gotten with his wyff, Isobell Brodie, baptized Thomas, Arthure Stewart in Ouer-Downan, Thomas Gordone in ye Kirktowne—witness." (Ibid.)

1642. November 22. "Alexander Brodie, burgensis de Aberdeen, haeres Ricardi Brodie, burgensis de Aberdeen, fratris germani." (Inquisitiones Generales.)

1724. June 17. "William Gordon, lawful son to Mr George Gordon, Minr. of Boharme, and Mrs Agnas Brodie, was baptised. William Gordon, grandfayer, William M'Wm, Jean Suyerland, Lady Achoynamie, Elizabeth Leslie witnessee." (Boharm Parish Registers.)

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

Key Found at Fraserburgh.



[Photo, Norrie, Fraserburgh.

Since the extension of Fraserburgh Cemetery was commenced at Kirkton, several curious finds have been made. Numerous ancient coins have been unearthed by the workmen, but probably

the most interesting discovery, so far, is the massive iron key depicted above. It was found near the north-west wall of the present cemetery, and local antiquarians assume that it belonged to the ancient Church of Philorth, of which not a single stone now remains. The key measures ten inches in length and is in good condition, notwithstanding the fact that it must have lain in the ground for several centuries. It is now in the possession of Mr A. G. Gavin, Mid Street, Fraserburgh, who owns one of the most valuable collections of antiquities in the north of Scotland.

The Origin of Parishes.

Mr William George Black delivered the first of a course of four lectures to students of the Faculty of Divinity on the "Law of the Church and Manse" on Tuesday of last week in the Divinity Class room of Glasgow University. Mr Black, dealing with "The Early Parish," defined a parish as a territory with boundaries, within which was a Christian church with a minister of the Christian religion, irremovable except for gravest faults (in other words, aut vitam aut culpam), attached to that church, for whose personal sustenance and for the maintenance of the church buildings there was a more or less permanent endowment arising territorially. The first ecclesiastical unit was the diocese, or perhaps more correctly the bishop, for the bishop existed before his diocese. So far as Europe was concerned, the Christian religion followed the Roman camp. Where the camp became the city, there was the bishop to be found; there, too, was his church, and around the church were his clergy. It was from the recluses and the bishops that the parishes came into being. Round the places where pious men had lived gathered pleasant and lasting memories, nor was the fact that necessarily the recluse lived where the simplest needs were easily satisfied without its later influence. Where the simple needs of one had been satisfied there were generally ample facilities for satisfying the simple needs of many, and thus while the saint died the community arose on the spot associated with his name. From such communities came the demand for more regular instruction than could be given by chance passing priests, or even by priests sent specially by the nearest bishop to look after the spiritual condition of the people. The more dominant origin of a parish was in the voluntary erection of a church upon his own lands by a Christian landowner. The presence of the baptismal font marked the true parish church as opposed to chapels or basilicas, and in the seventh century it was forbidden to monasteries to have a baptisterium. Mr Black then dealt with the development of the parochial system in England from the time of Archbishop Theodore of Tarsus (668 to 690) and the essentially different manner in which in Wales, Ireland, and Scotland, the development of the parish had proceeded—on lines which in their origin were tribal. They could not as yet say when Scotland was generally covered with parishes, but the work was not complete in 1581. It is not quite consistent with this that in 1560 no part of Scotland was admittedly extra-parochial, and the Act of 1581 might be read to refer to a sub-division of unwieldy parishes, but he was inclined to think that when great areas of country were served by one kirk the parochial demarcation was not complete. No one would say that parishes as we knew them necessarily or frequently represented prehistoric civil local territorial districts. What might be said, however, was that the Christian Church as a missionary agent spread outwards from each Roman military station. The landowners as they came under Christianity established churches upon their lands, and spaces which were wildernesses were Christianised by missionary bishops or monks. The spiritual entity was long postponed to the temporal: an estate and its church long preceded a church and its parish. The church, to begin with, was the pertinent of the villa. A church and a parish were not synonymous terms, but from the church which was pertinent to a villa arose the conceprion of a parish, a recognised territorial unit, and by-and-bye the parish swallowed up the villa. The Roman villa was the fiscal centre, whether the lands were public domain or private lordship. It would therefore appear that in Western Europe, while the development of ecclesiastical local units was in some measure due to the growth of Christianity in towns subject to Roman government, or to the very opposite cause—the gathering of dwellers in distant places round the cell of a hermit or the place where he had dwelt, or the presence of a monastic fraternity—yet the rural parish was in itself in origin essentially civil rather than religious, since in the case of agricultural communities its basis was the villa or manor, and in communities originally pastoral or migratory the tribe or clan, or family or sept of such tribe or clan. As each detachment settled itself in a known and fixed place, the parish came to be evolved. In the word parish, therefore, we had not only the whole history of the Christian Church as a recognised religion, but the earliest glimpses of the civil divisions of our most remote forefathers.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1837.

2nd January. At Crathes, Sir Robert Burnett of Leys, Bart., in his 82nd year.

5th January. At Edinburgh, aged 36, Mrs Elizabeth Helen Urquhart, relict of John Turner, Esq. of Turnerhall.

5th January. At Manse of Marykirk, Rev. James Shand, Minister of that parish, and formerly of the College Church, Aberdeen, in his 80th year.

6th January. Here, John M'Hardy, aged 85, many years Nurseryman at Auchmull.

8th January. At Manse of Newmachar, Isobel Cowie, wife of Rev. Alexander Simpson, Minister of that parish, aged 77.

5th January. At Stonehaven, George Watson, Esq., late Sheriff-Substitute, aged 76.

13th January. At Manse of Kinneff, Rev. Allan Stewart, in his 41st year, and 19th of ministry, having been ordained in 1818 as assistant and successor to his father, Rev. Patrick Stewart.

4th January. At Aberdeen, Miss Jane Gordon of Craigmyle, aged 86.

14th January. At London, William Gordon Cuming Skene, Esq. of Pitlurg and Dyce.

18th January. At Bieldside, Christian Gibb (second) spouse of William Corbet, in her 60th (? 61st) year.

2nd February. Here, Jane Blaikie, wife of Rev. Dr Keith, Minister of St Cyrus.

6th February. Here, Elizabeth Duthie, relict of Alexander Crombie, Esq. of Phesdo.

10th February. At Turriff, Rev. John Cardno, Episcopal Clergyman there, in his 66th year.

10th March. At Manse of Tarland, Mrs H[elen Maitland] Watson, wife of Rev. Andrew Watson, Minister there.

9th March. Barbara, wife of Robert Simpson of Cobairdy, aged 23.

9th March. At Newtonhill, Sir George Mulgrave Ogilvy, Bart. of Barras.

13th March. At Craighall, Peter Wemyss, Esq., aged 73.

4th April. Here, Andrew Watson Fordyce, Esq. of Ardoe, in his 26th year.

2nd April. At Banff, Joseph Bethune, Esq., late major, 78th Highlanders.

18th April. At Springhill, Wilhelmina Walker, wife of George Forbes, Esq. of Springhill, aged 38.

11th April. At Manse of Marnoch, Rev. William Stronach, Minister of that parish, in his 82nd year.

20th April. Here, Marjory Dyce, wife of Alexander Kilgour, Esq., M.D.

12th May. At Elgin, Mrs Daun, relict of Rev. George Daun, Minister of Insch, aged 85.

16th May. At Kilmarnock, Alexander Shand, son of Rev. John Shand, late Minister of Kintore.

14th May. At Corse, Forgue, John Gordon, aged 104.

29th May. George Gordon, Esq. of Auchleuchries, in his 82nd year.

11th June. At Manse of Banchory-Devenick, Mrs Dr Morison [Margaret Jaffray], in her 80th year.

11th July. Here, Isobel Hacket, relict of Charles Hacket, late of Inveramsay, in her 74th year.

20th July. At Manse of New Pitsligo, Rev. John Sharp, in his 83rd year.

2nd September. At Lowerholme, Charles Farquharson, M.A., M.D., son of the late Rev. Robert Farquharson, Coldstone.

11th September. At Manse of Kennay, Mrs Agnes Bruce, wife of Rev. Dr Mitchell, in her 83rd year.

12th September. At her house, Skene Terrace, Mrs Susan Beauvais, widow of George Auldjo of Portlethen.

14th September. At Manse of Monymusk, Rachel Copland, wife of Rev. Robert Forbes.

23rd September. At the Manse, Peterhead, Jane, wife of Rev. William Donald, Minister of that parish, and daughter of the late Rev. Dr Moir.

7th November. At London, Dr James Forbes, Inspector-General of Army Hospitals, a native of Aberdeen.

24th November. Here, suddenly, Mr William Copland, in his 87th year, the oldest acting elder of the Kirk-Session of St Nicholas.

27th November. Here, Thomas Ligertwood, late merchant, aged 70.

Queries.

424. Benholm Castle, Kincardineshire.—Wanted, the approximate date of the erection of the old tower or castle of Benholm.

Mearnsman.

425. Newmill, Keith.—When was the village of Newmill founded?

G. Roy.

426. Burgess-Donaldson Marriage.—Alexander Burgess, sometime in Demerara, married Jane, second daughter of Rev. Mr Donaldson, minister of Rathven. Can any reader say when and where the marriage took place?

A. B.

427. "Archie's Box, or the Stationmaster's Warning."—This poem had reference to a stationmaster at Cults. Who was its author, when was it published, and where could I see a copy?

H.

Answers.

417. Girsell Walker.—Mr Alexander M. Munro, in his "Memorials of the Aldermen, Provosts, etc., of Aberdeen," pp. 185-86, says that Girsell (or Grissel) Walker is supposed to have been a sister of Alexander Walker, who was Provost of Aberdeen in 1697-98.

R. Y.

420. "Wirreit and Brunt."—This old Scottish criminal sentence implied that the culprit was to be strangled and then burnt.

H.

423. Captain Murray Farquharson. This officer was the youngest son of James Farquharson of Coldrach, Braemar. He was sometime captain in the 1st West India Regiment and Lieutenant-Colonel of the 2nd Regiment of Aberdeenshire Local Militia. He died at Elsick, 2nd November, 1837, aged 76.

A. B.

No. 97.—February 23, 1910.

Famous Aberdeen Ships.

The following interesting narrative is lifted from the columns of the "Aberdeen Journal" of July 12, 1848:—

Some time ago it was our privilege to chronicle an event which is without a parallel in the history of our local marine. We mean the launching of three magnificent vessels, measuring together 1332 tons, from our building yards at Footdee, built of the best British oak, and after the model of the Aberdeen bow. This grand experiment, which was first tried in 1839, has now been fairly demonstrated; the Aberdeen bow has become in the maritime world "a great fact," and the present seems a fitting time for placing on record a comprehensive and circumstantial account of its rise and progress. This duty we undertake, not only because it is due to the highly-respectable builders with whom the idea originated, that their project should be held in remembrance, but to the city which has the honour of the invention, and because of the public benefits it is calculated, and we believe destined, to subserve.

In the year 1839, a few spirited gentlemen in Aberdeen formed themselves into a copartnery for the purpose of building a superior class of sailing vessels, to run in opposition to the steamboats of the Aberdeen and London Steam Navigation Company. They applied to Messrs A. Hall and Sons, shipbuilders, to construct a model for a fast schooner. The model was made as with the common bow, and orders were given to proceed with the construction of the vessel. The Messrs Hall commenced framing the schooner from aft, and continued the frames until they reached the fore end of the keel. Thus far the work had proceeded, when the builders suggested a deviation from the models, which they believed would prove to be a decided improvement. They proposed to run the stem out, so as to form the cut-water, the effect of which would be to draw the water-lines finer at the bow, and, as a natural consequence, the vessel would divide the water easily, be more buoyant forward, and of less register tonnage, than if she were built on the old plan. The idea did not at first meet the views of the owners. A skeleton bow was then erected, and not a few of the curious examined it, and were sceptical of the uncommon design. After due consideration, the owners gave consent to proceed with the vessel according to the skeleton model, and in that style she was finished. The look of the schooner in the water was encouraging. It was evident from the appearance of her water-lines that the idea of a perfect bow was realised, and some of those who were at first opposed to the project were now among its warmest commendators.

The new model necessarily implied a new style of masting and rigging. The sharpness of the bow, the fineness of the run, and breadth of the floor suggested the importance of placing the masts so as to concentrate the force of the sails as much as possible on the centre of the vessel; and in order to increase her headway with a lively motion, it was deemed essential to give her spars a good rake aftwards.

Thus built and equipped, the Scottish Maid was put on the passage to London, and such were the qualities of her sailing, that she frequently made the voyage in 49 hours. Encouraged by this result, the owners had other three clippers built on the same model, and so successful was the experiment, that "clipper bows" became quite the rage, and the Messrs Hall had orders to construct vessels with the Aberdeen bow to trade in every part of the globe.

In these circumstances, and looking upon the invention as being of national importance, we have traced the experiment down to the present time, as exemplified in the history of the other clippers which the inventors of the bow have built. Since 1839 the Messrs Hall have built the following vessels with the improved bow:—

Name.	Rig.	Port of registry.	Register tonnage.	Intended trade.
1839.				
Scottish Maid ..	sch.	Aberdeen	142	Abdn. & London
1840.				
Aberdonian	sch.	Aberdeen	146	Abdn. & London
Elizabeth	sch.	Aberdeen	139	Abdn. & N'castle
London	sch.	Aberdeen	142	Abdn. & London
Port Fleetwood..	sch.	P. F'wood	162	C. of Good Hope
1841.				
Lightning	sch.	Glasgow	147	G'mouth & Ldn.
1842.				
Iris	str	Cop'hagen	187	Baltic
Rapid	sch.	Leith	149	Leith & London
Nenesneh	sch.	Leith	151	Leith & London
Fairy	sch.	Leith	150	Abdn. & Leith
Mountain Maid...	brig.	Aberdeen	192	C. of Good Hope
1843.				
Border Maid	sch.	Berwick	90	B'wick & London
Water Witch	sch.	Berwick	92	B'wick & London
Peru	sch.	Peterh'd	191	Mediterranean
Ebenezer	sch.	Wick	66	Wick & Leith
Swift	sch.	Leith	183	Leith & London
Hero	sch.	St And'ws	52	St And's & Leith
1844.				
Gallowny	bq.	Glasgow	287	Montreal
Heroine	sch.	Wick	75	Wick & Leith
Queen (iron)	str.	Aberdeen	381	Leith & Inv'ness
Dart	sch.	Arbroath	88	Arb'ath & Ldn
1845.				
Acasta	bq.	Aberdeen	327	General
Wm. Renton	brig.	New'land	170	Newfoundland
P. of Wales (iron)	sch.	Leith	178	Leith & London
Torrington	sch.	London	144	Coast of China
White Mouse ...	sch.	D'mouth	72	Fruit trader
1846.				
Bon-Accord	ship	London	280	East Indies
Sir Wm. Wallace ..	sch.	F'burgh	105	Coaster
Matchless	sch.	Lerwick	107	Lerwick & Leith
Guiana	sch.	Aberdeen	92	General
Electra	bq.	London	306	West Indies

Name.	Rig.	Port of registry.	Register tonnage.	Intended trade.
1847.				
North Star	ship	London	384	East Indies
Amelia	sch.	Glasgow	149	Coast of China
Victoria	sch.	Leith	65	Leith & R'erdam
Curlew	sch.	Aberdeen	116	C. of Good Hope
1848.				
Pilot Fish	ship	Liverpool	314	Brazils
Ben Muick Dhui	bq.	Aberdeen	300	Brazils
Wm. Punton	brig.	Aberdeen		
Bonita	ship	Liverpool	299	Brazils

In supplying us with this return, the Messrs Hall say—"It is a singular fact that not one of these vessels has to this day been lost. This is perhaps the strongest argument that can be advanced in favour of their superiority over the ordinary build; and when it is further stated that not one of them has been laid up or withdrawn from active service for a single day, either in summer or winter, it is impossible to resist the conclusion that a new and most important improvement has been introduced into our mercantile marine.

As additional and still more definite testimony to the practical value of this improvement, we have been favoured with copies of letters which the builders have received from most of the captains of the foregoing vessels, and submit a few extracts which may be confidently relied on as a specimen of the whole. The first is from Captain Nell, of the Torrington, who, in a letter dated Singapore, September 30, 1845, gives an interesting account of his voyage out, and says:—"As I promised to give you a faithful account of the vessel, my opinion is—She is as fine a specimen of naval architecture as man need desire. As a sea boat, her equal cannot be found. . . ."

The Bon-Accord is one of the largest ships built by the Messrs Hall with the improved bow. She had 25 kiels of coal on board, and not in good trim, when Captain Buckle thus wrote to the builders from "off Dover, February 5, 1846":—"In coming from Newcastle, we passed all we saw, both on and off the wind, with the exception of a clipper schooner, one of our own build, which was too much for us, close-hauled. The only inconvenience we felt with the long bow was in handling the anchor, a defect which has since been remedied. . . ."

The North Star (384 tons), another of the largest class, has proved equally satisfactory in her sailing qualities. Captain Hale, in a letter dated "London, 17th February, 1847," says:—"Off the wind, going 9 knots without a whisper and passing everything in a wind stiff under canvas, and fore reaches so much in stays, that the pilot hardly dare work the square mainsail in the narrows if there was any wind."

The Mountain Maid brig was built in 1842, and has made many remarkable passages. One of the hands on board H.M. ship Apollo, under date "Greenwich, October 29, 1847," says:—"The Mountain Maid left our frigate on the passage between St Helena and England two or three days. She got to London the day we got to Plymouth. She left the island about seven or eight hours before us, and when we called at the Island of Ascension she had gone two days before. . . ."

Robert Gordon, Xeres, Spain.

Robert Gordon, Xeres, married Letitia Rudyerd, daughter of General Rudyerd, R.E. (who died 1828), who in turn was the son of Benjamin Rudyerd, by his second wife, Miss Beaumont, Yorkshire. By his first wife, Dorothy Muddey, Benjamin Rudyerd had a son Robert, who married Jane Chaplin, and had a son Benjamin Rudyerd, captain in the Coldstream Guards, died 1752. This Captain Benjamin Rudyerd's letters are reprinted in the Memoir of his great-great-grandfather, the famous Sir Benjamin Rudyerd (1572-1658), and the friend of Ben Jonson. The memoir was written by J. A. Manning in 1841, and contains as an appendix a brief genealogy of the Rudyerd family. In this genealogy, by the way, the husband of Letitia Rudyerd is given, on p. xlix., as "James" Gordon.

I do not know who this Robert Gordon was. It is probable he was Robert Arthur Gordon, merchant, of Cadiz, son of Jas. Gordon of Beldorney and Kildrummy, and uncle of James Arthur Gordon (1759-1824) of Xeres. This suggestion is emphasised by the fact that Robert's daughter, according to Mr George Buchanan, solicitor, Whitby, bore the name of Arthur. On the other hand, the Birnie MS. says that Robert, the son of James of Beldorney, was the merchant at Cadiz (Mr Buchanan also says he was a wine merchant at Cadiz), and died "without issue." In any case, Robert Gordon and Letitia Rudyerd, his wife, had at least one son and one daughter:—

1. Robert Huntly Gordon was baptised October 6, 1797, in the parish of St Anne's, Kew Green, Surrey. He was educated at Hall Place, Kent, and Woodford Wells, Essex. He got an ensigncy in the 18th Foot, April 10, 1817. In 1819 his father was dead, and his mother, who had married (2ndly) C. Richardson, was living in Brunswick Square, London. Robert Huntly was in 1819 nominated to a cadetship in the Madras Infantry by William Astell, a director of the H.E.I.C., on the recommendation of C. Richardson (his stepfather?) He became ensign April 6, 1820, and lieutenant May 16, 1822. He arrived at Madras July 31, 1820, and was posted to the 2nd Native Infantry. He was on furlough 1824-8, and was transferred to the Invalid Establishment, April 13, 1830. On August 20 he was permitted to return to Europe on sick certificate, but he seems to have sailed about January 1, 1831. In February, 1833, he requested to be allowed to retire, and was informed that in this event he would be granted only the half pay of an ensign (5s a day). He retired March 1st, 1833. He married in Scotland, according to Mr Buchanan, Helen M'Gregor. He

had two children. In May, 1838, his wife told the H.E.I.C. Court that he had failed to provide for her and her children's support. The Court replied that they could not help her. Mr Buchannan tells me that he had one son, but he knows nothing about him. Robert Huntly himself is said to have died in the 'seventies. A Herbert Huntly Gordon, architect, London, is the son of a Mrs Gordon who married, secondly, Mr Farmer, the well-known auctioneer, whose firm now includes a Richardson. The names are suggestive of some connection, but I have absolutely failed to make it out. For all the military information I am indebted to Mrs Skelton, whose knowledge of the military Gordons is unique.

2. Maria del Rosario Ann Arthur Gordon, "only daughter," married at Streatham Castle, on March 13, 1827, A. Macduff Baxter, Attorney-General, New South Wales ("Gentleman's Magazine," vol. 97, part 1, p. 362 which omits her name of "Arthur" given here on the authority of Mr Buchannan). She had a son, Colin Baxter, and two daughters, the last of whom lately died unmarried.

J. M. Bulloch.

Nelson Street United Free Church, Aberdeen.

Attached to the vestibule wall of the church is a white marble tablet inscribed—

"He being dead yet speaketh."
To the Memory of
the Rev. Thomas Brown,
First Minister of this Church,
died at Greenock, 10th May, 1879,
aged 66 years,
and is interred in Greenock Cemetery.
He was a faithful and devoted servant of Christ,
and was greatly beloved by his people.
For 26 years he laboured in this district,
and by his efforts this church was erected.
Erected by his beloved wife,
Violet Alexander,
who died at Greenock, on the
22nd Novr., 1883.

Rev. Thomas Brown, who died at 7 Brisbane Street, Greenock, and is thus commemorated, would appear to have been a native of Edinburgh, as in his boyhood he had been connected with the Tolbooth Church in that city. He came to Aberdeen in 1854, at the age of 42, to undertake the charge of the Gallowgate Mission under the supervision of a committee of the Free Church Presbytery. The work performed by him proved so eminently successful that the Presbyterial Committee resolved in 1859 to provide for its future development by erecting a church in the district, and this project was carried into effect in 1861. Trouble arose, however, in connection with an application to have the mission raised to the status of a sanctioned charge of the Church, with power to the members to elect their own minister. (See Gammie's "Churches of Aberdeen," pp. 154-5.) Ultimately, Mr Brown and the bulk of his congregation went over to the United Presbyterian Church, Mr Brown being ordained on 3rd May, 1864, to the pastorate of the new charge, a church being subsequently erected in Nelson Street, which was opened on 22nd March, 1867. Mr Brown demitted the charge on 8th April, 1878, after fourteen years of strenuous activity in the ministry. He had no family.

Mr Alexander M. M'Pherson, Greenock, informs me that in Greenock Cemetery (section E 74-75), a chaste grey granite headstone, with polished side pillars, bears the following inscription—

T. B. (monogram).
In
Loving Remembrance of
the Rev. Thomas Brown,
Late Minister of the U.P. Church,
Nelson Street, Aberdeen,
who died at Greenock,
10th May, 1879, aged 66 years.
"He is not dead but sleepeth."
Erected by his bereaved widow,
Violet Alexander,
who died 22nd November, 1883, aged 81 years.
Asleep in Jesus until the day dawn
and the shadows flee away.

It is to be regretted that there is no reference to Mr Brown and his wife in the Church Minute Books. But further particulars respecting Mr Brown's church, of the ministers who followed, and of the eventual amalgamation, on 5th September, 1909, with St Andrew's United Free Church, when the united congregations became known as King Street United Free Church, will be found in the "Churches of Aberdeen."

A baptismal bowl is inscribed—

NELSON ST. U.P. CHURCH.
3 MARCH. 1889.

The above bowl was obtained by subscriptions from members and friends of the congregation, organised by Rev. Archibald Campbell. He informs me that the bowl is now in the custody of King Street Church, and was used there for the first time on Sunday, 26th December, 1909.

Rev. Robert Dick mentions in his "Scottish Communion Tokens" that the Nelson Street Church had no tokens of its own, but used the 1842 ones of St Paul Street congregation.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

The Strachans of Glenkindy.

Very little has been done to expiscate the history of this family. By way of a sidelight, the following "warrant for a remission to Alexander Strachan of Glenkindy of his accession to the death or slaughter of Alexander Soure" may be interesting to genealogists. It is quoted (for the first time I fancy) from the State Papers, at the Record Office, London ("Scotland: Warrant Book" 4, p. 82):—

Our Soveraigne Lord, being informed that Alexander Strachan of Glenkindy upon occasion of the death or slaughter of Alexander Soure (sometime ffootman to Adam Gordon of Glenbucket) the —— day of —— last bypast on a hill about four miles distant from the house of Glenkindy was (upon some information) cited amongst others as arte and parte of the said death or slaughter, and that although, in obedience to the criminal letters raised at the instance of his Majesty's advocate for that purpose, the said Alexander Strachan did make his appearance two severall diets already before the Justice Court at Edinburgh, yet nothing could be proved against him: And his Majestie, being also informed that some persons doe still continue to give in informations against the said Alexander Strachan of purpose to put him to a great deale more of trouble and charges than he hath been at already in clearing himself of these false aspersions, notwithstanding that he hath obtained Letters of Slaines and a full discharge (bearing date the fourth day of May last bypast), from the nearest of kinne to the defunct on the mother side for themselves, and taking burden on them for ye rest of all their kinne friends and allies both on ye father's side and mother's side of the deceased Alexander Soure; As also his Majesty, being well informed of ye peaceable disposition of the said Alexander Strachan, and being graciously desirous to free him from all further trouble, charges, and vexation upon occasion of the said death or slaughter:

Therefore our said Soveraigne Lord, with the speciall advice and consent of the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury and of the remanent Lords and others Commissioners of his Exchequer of his ancient Kingdome of Scotland, ordaines a letter to be made and past under His Majestie's Great Seal thereof in due forme, remitting, pardoning, and ffforgiving: Likeas his Majestie by these presents remitts, pardons, and freely forgives unto the said Alexander Strachan of Glenkindy all and whatsoever accession which he may be pretended to have had directly or indirectly any manner of way to the death or slaughter of the said Alexander Soure; and all rancour of mind and offence which his Majestie hath conceived or may conceive against him for the same; and all action, process, as well criminall as civill, that may any wayes be intended, moved, or pursued against him therefor; Inhibiting and discharging his Majestie's Justice Generall, Justice Clerk, and Commissioners of Justiciary, his Highnesse Advocate, and all judges and ministers of the laws ony wayes to summon, arrest, accuse, censure, or condemne the said Alexander Strachan for the said death or slaughter in any time to come, and of their offices in that part. And his Majesty ordains the said remission to be further extended in ye best forme with all clauses needfull.

Given at the Court at Whitehall the 5th day of November, 1676, and of his Majesty's reigne the 28th year.

LAUDERDALE.

A "nota" on the side says:—"That this remission to Glenkindy was afterwards recalled and cancelled."

J. M. B.

Early Scottish Historians.

At a meeting of the Historical and Philological Section of the Royal Philosophical Society of Glasgow on January 19, Mr F. J. Amours lectured on "The Reigns of David II. and Robert II. in Fordun, Wyntoun, and Bower." The lecturer established first the relative position of the three historians according to the quantity and quality of information furnished by each during the two reigns. Fordun's "Annals" contain the main events carefully arranged under correct dates, but they do not contain much more, and his knowledge becomes less the nearer he comes to his own time. Wyntoun confesses that he did not know what was done in those days, but that an unknown friend sent him an account so suitable that he attached it bodily to his incomplete chronicle. This anonymous work is without any doubt the best authority on the period. Bower copied almost every line of it in his "Scotichronicon" along with Fordun's "Annals," and additions by himself, but the whole became a confused mass, where it was impossible to recognise anybody's special share. This state of confusion has lasted till recently. The modern edition of Fordun by Skene allows us to differentiate between the three writers. Wyntoun also meddled with his friend's contribution when he recast his own chronicle a second and a third time, but since the Wemyss manuscript has been published in full we have the anonymous annals of the reigns of David II. and Robert II. as they first saw the light. They deserve to be printed separately as a companion volume and as continuations of Barbour's Bruce.

Sir Thomas Craig's Treatise on the Union.*

Sir Thomas Craig has been designated "one of the earliest and one of the ablest writers on the law of Scotland." It is conjectured that he was the eldest son of William Craig of Craigfintray, or Craigston, in Aberdeenshire. He became a member of the Scots bar in 1563, and in 1604 he visited London as one of the Scottish Commissioners regarding the union between the kingdoms. He was an earnest advocate of this union, and in support of it wrote (in Latin) his elaborate "Treatise on the Union of the Scottish Realms." The manuscript of the treatise is in the Advocates' Library; and this new volume of the Scottish History Society's publications contains a reprint of the Latin version, along with a translation and notes. It was originally arranged that the late Professor Masson should edit the work, in which he was greatly interested, but the editing passed eventually into the hands of Professor Terry. Masson's connection with the volume, however, and with the general work of the Scottish History Society (he was chairman of the Council from the inception of the Society to his death) have amply justified the insertion of an admirable portrait of him as a frontispiece, which will be welcomed by the members and others.

Professor Terry, in a brief preface, remarks that it is curious that Sir Thomas Craig's Treatise should have waited until after the three hundredth anniversary of its author's death before appearing in print. The treatise, or the major part of it, was written by Craig in 1605. He was, as has been mentioned, one of the Scottish Commissioners appointed to discuss with Commissioners representing England "the closer political union which James's recent accession to the English throne encouraged him to press," and he signed the Articles of Union agreed upon by the Commissioners in December, 1604. He must then, Professor Terry thinks, have begun to write, or possibly to continue, the "Tractatus" immediately after his return to Scotland. "The importance of the work," Professor Terry goes on to say, "consists in the fact that it is the only detailed argument which we possess for union from the Scottish side. At the same time, it must no more be regarded as an index to the convictions of the average Scotsman of the period than were the views of Bacon typical of English sentiment on the matter. Indeed, Craig's statement of the reason which impelled him to undertake the work is eloquent of Scotland's indifference or disinclination to a union for which public opinion neither in England nor in Scotland was then educated."

The work, judged by present-day standards, would doubtless be regarded as far too elaborate and discursive—much of it irrelevant, and the whole of it tedious. Such a conclusion would almost be arrived at from a glance at the headings of the various chapters, of which there are a dozen in all—"The separation of the crowns of the island is the cause of all the calamities that have befallen Britain," and "Monarchy has been and remains the best form of government, and is essential to the safety and wellbeing of Britain," for example, to cite only two. But a dip into the chapters themselves reveals a profuseness of argumentation and a prodigality of historical and other illustration that are well-nigh bewildering; yet passages are encountered that are striking by the view presented and the succinctness with which it is expressed, especially when it is totally alien to current and generally received opinion. "For of all systems of government," says Craig—to cite an instance at random—"monarchy is the most admirable and efficient. Nay, it alone was instituted by Almighty God, the Author of all perfection. Of aristocracy and democracy there is no mention in Holy Writ, and no indication of their being of divine institution." In one chapter, he deals at great length with the topics discussed at the Union conference, meeting various criticisms put forward; and he then devotes a chapter to the consideration "Of the kinds of treaty, of union in general, and of the things necessary thereto," not failing, to be sure, to "return to Polybius and his account of the Peloponnesians," for "there is no part of the universe nor any national character more congruous to my present argument than the Peloponnese." Craig's dexterity of reasoning, with his accompanying diffuseness of statement and wide range of citation and allusion, is perhaps best exhibited in the chapter in which he discusses "Whether for the perfecting of the proposed union the laws of the two countries should be identical." He first sets up the proposition that, to promote the union, it is by no means imperative that the two kingdoms should submit to identical laws and systems. But before he is done he has arrived at the conclusion that "There is not that difference between the laws of the two countries that is popularly supposed to exist. Nor is there any reason to despair of the possibility of so harmonising the legal systems of the two people as to fashion one body of law applicable equally to both, and thereby to promote the union of the two countries in one body politic." And, wedged in between, we have a minute—and really interesting—examination of the English and Scottish legal systems. The book is full of these disquisitions on side issues; and in respect of them and of several other features, the careful reader will find in it much matter for entertainment—and perhaps some instruction as well. Certainly, thanks are due to the Scottish History Society and to Professor Terry for furnishing a translation of a historical document that is of no small value in itself, but is of still more value for the sidelights it throws on the character and opinions of its distinguished author.

* De Unione Regnorum Britanniæ Tractatus. By Sir Thomas Craig. Edited from the Manuscript in the Advocates' Library, with a Translation and Notes, by C. Sanford Terry, M.A. Edinburgh: Scottish History Society.

The Gordons and Smiths at Minmore, Etc.

Mrs Grant Robertson, Ringwood, Hants, a cousin of the late Colonel John Gordon Smith of Minmore, and her brother, Brigade-Surgeon George Grant, have had printed for private circulation an account of "The Gordons and Smiths at Minmore, Auchorachan, and Upper Drumin, in Glenlivet," prepared by Mr John Malcolm Bulloch—an enlarged reprint of a series of articles which appeared in the "Huntly Express" at considerable intervals during 1906-8. The Gordons of (or, more correctly, in) Minmore form part of a large group of the house of Gordon in the district of Glenlivet—the name given to the southern part of the parish of Inveravon in Banffshire. Minmore Castle is now a ruin, but on the adjoining site stands the famous Glenlivet Distillery, belonging to the family of Smith-Grant, which combines three of the Glenlivet groups—the Gordons in Minmore, the Gordons in Auchorachan, and the Smiths in Upper Drumin. The Smiths are descended from the Auchorachan Gordons, and though the blood relationship of the latter with the Minmore Gordons is by no means clear, the continuity is asserted in the tenancy of the Smith family on the estate of Minmore.

The Minmore Gordons, who trace to the Gordons of Knockespock, in the parish of Clatt, in Aberdeenshire, tenanted the lands of Minmore for over two centuries at least—from 1632 to 1840, the first of them being William Gordon, the natural son of an Alexander Gordon, a burgess of Elgin. A grandson of William married (about 1693) Rachel Gordon, the heiress of Abergeldie, in Aberdeenshire, and founded the existing Abergeldie line of Gordons. The fourth Gordon in Minmore, John, was a captain in the Jacobite army, and commanded Prince Charlie's bodyguard at Culloden. His eldest son, William (fifth in Minmore) began his career soldiering, getting a commission, first, in the Northern Fencibles raised by the Duke of Gordon, and then in the Gordon Highlanders. His third son, John, had various services in the army, and ultimately became major in the 8th West India Regiment, being temporarily in command of it in 1802 when the soldiers mutinied, killing one or two of the white officers. William Gordon (fifth) had two families, one of his sons being Sir Charles Gordon, who was secretary of the Highland and Agricultural Society from 1835 till his death ten years later. He purchased the estate of Drimnin in Argyleshire, and his descendants are now the direct representatives of the original Gordons in Minmore.

The continuity of the Gordons in the lands of Minmore, as already mentioned, was maintained by the Gordons in Auchorachan. The son and heir of the famous Jacobite, John Gordon of Glenbucket, was owner of Auchorachan, but eventually Gordons came into possession who were not connected with the Glenbucket family. These Gordons began with a William Gordon of Bogfountain, who died in 1790, aged 71; and they became extinct on the death in 1875, at the age of 84, of a William Gordon, in Tomnavoulin, thus described by his second cousin, Rev. J. F. S. Gordon, the author of "The Chronicles of Keith"—"He had no great sympathy with modern ideas of advance. For fifty years the whole steading was of the most primitive makeshift caste. 'Tamoul,' as he was called from his farm, in his garb was equally unadorned, the same tattered rags having done duty for years. However, on high occasions he appeared Bonton. While most penurious, when an auld acquaintance paid him a visit at the roadside farm house (if such it could be designated), Tamoul was kind and hospitable, setting down bread and cheese and a bottle of real Glenlivet."

The Gordon Smith family was founded by Andrew Smith, farmer, Upper Drumin, who married in 1706 Margaret Gordon, Auchorachan, daughter of William Gordon of Bogfountain. His fourth son, George, had a remarkable career, which is thus summarised:—"About 1817, he became tenant of part of the farm of Upper Drumin. In 1824 he built a legal distillery on the farm, much to the disgust of his neighbours, who carried on the business of smuggling. He was so successful that the distillery had to be extended four times. In 1837 he took the farm of Castleton of Blairfindy; in 1838 the farm of Nevie, which is within a mile of Upper Drumin; and in 1839 the fine farm of Minmore, with which the Gordons had been associated so long. In 1850 he took Delnabo, above Tomintoul, and carried on a distillery which was upon the farm, known as Cairngrm. In 1858 he united his distilleries by building a large one at Minmore. In the course of his career as a farmer he reclaimed 500 acres, and left his son with more than 800 acres of arable land and some 10,000 to 12,000 acres of hill pasture." This son was John Gordon Smith, who was taken into partnership in the distillery (the firm becoming G. and J. G. Smith); established a fine herd of polled cattle at Minmore, and later a herd of shorthorns; and bought the estates of Delnabo and Auchintoul. He joined the 6th Volunteer Battalion Gordon Highlanders, at its inception in 1867, and rose to be its lieutenant-colonel. He died unmarried in 1901. The chief representative of the family is his nephew, George Smith Grant, Auchorachan (now also of Minmore, and owner of the Glenlivet Distillery).

A Valuable Scots Quaigh.

That old Scots silver wins much favour in the market was once more proved on Wednesday at Christie's, London, when a Charles II. quaigh fetched 415s per oz., £253 6s 9d (Bond). This cup is engraved with formal roses, thistle heads, and a fleur de lys, divided by lines radiating from the centre. The handles are flat, and engraved with the initials A. G. I. B. The cup bears the Edinburgh hall mark, and was made about 1662 by Alexander Reid and Deacon James Symontoun.

It weighs 12 oz. 9 dwt., which is less than the 14 oz. 12 dwt. quaigh that brought 560s per oz. last year.

This form of vessel is no doubt synonymous with the Gaelic cauch, the old Irish cauch, the Greek kauka, the Welsh cawg, and probably the Latin caucus, and is really a drinking cup which in earlier days was built of wooden staves, hence the radiating in the bowl in question. The quaigh is often mentioned in literature and history. Sir John Fowles mentions a "quech weighing 18 ounces and 10 drops. In "Marmion" we read the "Quaighs were deep, the liquor strong." Mrs Carlyle wrote in 1849 that "in passing a cooper's shop I stept in and bought two beautiful little quaighs." Queen Victoria, in "More Leaves," refers to "A silver quaigh out of which Prince Charles Edward drank;" and in "Humphrey Clinker" we find that "the spirits were drunk out of a silver quaff."

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1838.

1st January. At Burnside, Robert Duthie, Esq. of Ruthrieston, merchant in Aberdeen.

16th January. Here, Rev. John Thomson, M.D., Minister of St Clement's Parish, in his 81st year.

27th January. At Huntly Lodge, John Jopp, a seaman who signalised himself in the engagement under Lord Rodney on 12th April, 1782.

10th February. At Aberdeen, Alexander Murray, M.D., aged 39.

1st February. At Finzean, Mary Bannerman, widow of Francis Russell, Esq. of Blackhall, aged 70, youngest daughter and co-heiress of Sir Alexander Bannerman, Bart. of Elsick and Hargley.

13th February. At Polgonie (? Balgownie) Lodge, in his 63rd year, Dr James Bannerman, Professor of Medicine in King's College, third son of the late Sir Alexander Bannerman of Elsick, Bart.

7th February. Here, Convener Robb, aged 68.

10th February. At Robert Gordon's Hospital of this date, in his 25th year, Arthur Simpson, A.M., son of Rev. Alexander Simpson, Minister of Strichen.

19th February. At Huntly, Rev. Morris Forsyth, Minister of Mortlach, in his 67th year.

14th March. At his house in the Green, Alexander Harper, Esq., one of the Baillies of the city.

11th March. At her house Old Aberdeen, Mrs Dr Gilbert Gerard, in her 80th year.

1st March. Here, William Cooper, M.D., in his 27th year.

8th March. Here, Rev. James Paterson, Minister of the United Secession Church, Midmar, aged 62 years.

12th March. Here, Convener Alexander Thomson, Cooper.

1st April. Here, Mrs Mary Smith, widow of W. Smith, Esq., R.N., and daughter of the late Charles Fair, Esq. [advocate and Sheriff-Substitute of Aberdeenshire].

30th March. At Langton Lodge, Yorkshire, Mary Sophia, relict of John Robertson, Esq. of Foveran.

26th March. Here, Peter Brown, senior, Auctioneer, in his 71st year.

26th April. Drowned through the upsetting of a pleasure boat at the entrance to the harbour here, Alexander Masson, aged 27, son of Mr Masson, farmer, Culter; George G. Smith, aged 24, son of George Smith, farmer, Aboyne; and Thomas G. Gavin, aged 21, son of Dr Gavin, Strichen.

27th April. Here, Mr James Gordon, Nursery and Seedsman, aged 43.

29th April. At Forglen House, the Hon. Dame Jane Abercromby, in her 89th year.

10th May. At Fetternear House, General Hay of Rannes, in his 80th year.

28th May. At her house, Old Aberdeen, Miss Margaret Paton, senior of Grandholm, in her 90th year.

29th June. At Fraserburgh, the Right Rev. Alexander Jolly, D.D., Bishop of Moray, in his 83rd year.

23th July. At Manse of Belhelvie, Isabella Elizabeth Scott, wife of Rev. Charles M'Combie of Tillyfour, aged 25.

8th August. At Edinburgh, Mrs Elizabeth Dalrymple, relict of George Leith of Overhall, and daughter of the late General Dalrymple Horn Elphinstone of Horn and Logie-Elphinstone.

16th August. At Kepplestone Cottage, Elizabeth, fourth daughter of the late Rev. Dr William Laing, Peterhead.

27th August. At Auchaber, in his 77th year, James Wilson, Esq. of Auchaber.

2nd September. At Crimonmogate, Mrs Bannerman, wife of Charles Bannerman, Esq., following in two [? three] short days their eldest [? second] daughter, Mary Elizabeth, both suddenly cut off by scarlet fever.

8th September. At 15 Union Terrace, Aberdeen, in prime of life, George Campbell Farquharson, eldest son of P. Farquharson, of Whitehouse.

8th September. At Grandholm Works, aged 66, Mr Alexander Cooper, manufacturer.

24th August. At Manse of Leochel-Cushnie, of typhus fever, Rev. William Malcolm, in his 47th year.

4th October. At Oldmeldrum, John Morison, Esq. of Kilblean, in his 77th year.

17th October. At Schoolhouse, Cairney, Rev. James Green, aged 54, for thirty years schoolmaster of that parish.

7th October. At Old Yards of Auchmacoy, Mr Sylvester Falconer, aged 79.

1st November. At Ham Park, near London, Peter Duguid, Esq. of Bourtie.

18th November. At Fawsyde, Mary Logie, wife of Dr William Young of Fawsyde.

8th November. At Boat of Monymusk, George Brown, Esq. of Tanfield, in his 72nd year.

1st December. At Manse of Kemnay, Rev. Patrick Mitchell, D.D., in his 84th year.

3rd December. At Edingight, Sir John Innes of Edingight and Balvenie, Bart., aged 37.

16th December. At Edinburgh, Mrs Pennel Mackenzie, widow of John Douglas, Esq. of Tilwhilly.

14th December. At Tunbridge Wells, in his 85th year, John Forbes, Esq. of Waterton.

Queries.

428. The Bruce, etc.—In reading a recent treatise on Surnames, it occurred to me that the form "The Bruce," "The Graham," "The Rose," etc., might really be a corruption of "De Bruys, "De Graham," "De Ros," etc., and that there was not a special and demonstrative use of the "the" as stated in some works—e.g., Bain's Higher Grammar. Correspondents would oblige with an authoritative ruling on the point.

Quiznuncle.

429. Lewis Innes of Balnacraig. — A daughter of Mr Innes was married to a Mr Lynch. What was the name of the lady, and where and when did the marriage take place?

A. B.

430. Laurencekirk. — To whom was the church of this parish dedicated, and what is known of its history?

R. D.

431. Charles Cramond, Fiddle-Maker.—When did he flourish? A daughter of his—Margaret—was buried in St Peter's Cemetery, Aberdeen, 4th September, 1830, aged 5. My mother tells me her uncle, Alexander Murdoch, who died 26th November, 1892, aged 76 years, and was buried in Nellfield Cemetery, Aberdeen, was known by the sobriquet "Cramond."

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

Answers.

424. Benholm Castle, Kincardineshire.—According to Macgibbon and Ross ("Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland," I., 254-85), this is "a fifteenth-century keep," being still entire and attached to a modern mansion.

G. D.

427. "Archie's Box, or the Station-master's Warning."—This broadsheet was published by George Davidson, author of "The Legend of St Swithin," etc. Old residenters here recollect the incidents described in the poem.

Cults.

483. St Peter's Cemetery, Aberdeen.—Burials in St Peter's Churchyard (now generally designated cemetery), have taken place from at least 1730, but the register of interments from that date to 12th April, 1769, is missing. The first "marker" was placed on a grave 18th May, 1769, on George Soudie, gardener. The older portion known as the "Chapel Walls" was a favourite burial place of Catholics.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

No. 98.—March 2, 1910.

Riding of the Aberdeen City Marches.

Our municipal authorities having resolved to revive the ancient practice, for many years fallen into desuetude, of riding the Outer Marches or Landmyres of the city, Monday last [7th September, 1840] was appointed for that purpose. In former times, the municipality acquired in various ways a very considerable extent of landed property, which was latterly either feued or sold, the Magistrates still retaining the superiority of the lands, and their jurisdiction extending far beyond the mere limits of the "brave town." The boundaries between the town's freedom lands and the lands lying in the county were distinguished by certain march stones, placed at various distances along the line of demarcation. Some of these were "earth fast"—unexcavated "heathens," as they are called—while others owed their localisation to artificial means. They were generally distinguished from "orra" stones by having scooped out, on the top, small round cavities called "saucers," while some were besides remarkable from exhibiting four "witterholes," and a few were indented with the form of a key, said to be after the pattern of those with which St Peter is usually represented.

The first complete record of the riding of the city marches is to be found in the Council Register for 1698. On the 6th of August of that year "the Magistrates and certain of the Council, along with several of the Brethren of Guild, and Deacons of the Crafts, skilfull and expert in the town's outer marches, according as they had used to be ridden yearly, past memory of man, visited, rode, and perambulated the said outer marches." They "began and took up their first march, as the same was wont to be taken up of old, at ane march stone on the south side of the Justice Mill Burn, forenent the nook of Coble's Croft, contigue to the east side of the King's Gate, called the Wain Gate, on the south side of the New Bridge, where there is ane great stone marked with ane saucer, at the north-west nook of the houses lately built by Ferryhill." They steered their course, "therefrae," along the Hardgate "to the house called the Halfpenny House," and thence towards Cooperstown, Pitmuckston (where there was "a pair of butts"), Ruthrieston, Leslie's Foord, Pitfodels, Bellswells the Den of Murtle, and Wedder Craig, near which was "Brownie's Grave." They then turned in a north-westerly direction, passing the Braid Hill, the "Ringing" Stone; then keeping the Burn of the Old to Bredlach; thence striking off towards King's Wells for the Blackburn, and the Blindburn and the Garthburn; "holding down" the latter, and then holding up the Chapman Road, until they reached Greenwell Tree. They then brushed the north side of the hill of Bryman, till they reached the Goulfburn, struck down between the lands of Sclattie and Craibstone; passed Wagley, Buxburn, Auchmull, etc., until they reached the "Water of Don"; holding down the said water till they reached the "old found of the Dirra (Deer-Roe) Dyke." They kept along this dyke to the place "where it was thought the old kiln of Caperstone stood," and thence by Peterston, Kittiebrewster, Pictillum, the Spittal, Gallow Slacks, and the Bansticle Burn, "till it entered the salt sea"; then proceeding along the beach "to the Block House, and therefrae up the shore."

The custom of riding the Marches annually, on the last Saturday of August, continued to be punctually observed till the year 1755, when it was discontinued, for what reason is not apparent. In 1780, however, it was again revived. Upon the 4th and other three days of September in that year, the whole of the marches were "visted and narrowly inspected" by Baillie George Adam, Treasurer William Forbes, John Ewen, Master of Kirk and Bridge Works, and Alexander Carnegie, Town Clerk; along with George Thompson, merchant; George Forbes, coppersmith; and Alexander Aberdein, cooper. The parties ascertained all the marches, with the exception of that between the lands of Hilton and Caperstane, which they "were not able distinctly to ascertain, after having perambulated the ground for two days." They recommended that upright stones, marked at the top with the letters A B D, should be erected beside all the original "saucer-stones" (65 in number), many of which were nearly level with the ground. It would appear that the recommendations of this Report were only partially acted upon, when the matter was again taken up by the Council in 1790. On the 2nd and 7th of September of that year, the marches were carefully inspected by a Committee of the Council, accompanied by the Town Clerk; Messrs Forbes and Ewen, two of the former inspectors; Captain George Taylor of Annefield, land surveyor; Mr Gavin Hadden, merchant; Mr G. Forbes, procurator-fiscal for the burgh; Messrs William Carnegie and Alexander Turner, writers; and A. Gildawie, mason. They carried along with them the Report of 1780, which they found "very distinct and accurate." At the same time, they found that a few of the new stones had not been placed upright, but merely laid on the ground, and that some others had been placed in wrong situations. These mistakes were ordered to be rectified. A case of unlawful intrusion on the march-road at Cults having been discovered, in consequence of the building up of the gateways in the dykes of a planted inclosure, Peter Duguid, Town Treasurer, proceeded in due form to testify against this invasion of the rights of the Burgh, by "turning down a parcel of stones in the dykes, and taking instruments in the hands of Mr George Forbes, notary public, be-

fore witnesses, Daniel Mowat, merchant: Robert Cantley and William Anderson, town serjeants." The Committee recommended that Captain Taylor should be appointed to make out a plan of the land marches; that the town's mess-grieve should annually perambulate the said marches, and report thereanent; and that once in five years a solemn "riding" should be held by a Committee of the Council. This Report was unanimously approved of, and adopted by the Council.

There are no particular accounts of the quinquennial "ridings"—the last was held in 1810. In the olden time the Riding of the Marches was observed with no little pomp and circumstance. In those days "boundary disputes" with neighbouring lairds were by no means infrequent, and were sometimes provocative of rather untoward "collisions." An Act of Council of 3rd September, 1634, "ordains the outer marches to be ridden on the Monday following, and the haill town to be warned to it by the drum; ilk person under the pain of ane outlaw of ten pounds." On the same occasion, "Paul Collinson was appointed carrier of the town's colours and coronat." Such a troop of cavaliers must have presented a rather formidable array, and impressed the rural population with a wholesome reverence for the men who, in those days, were not much disposed "to bear the sword in vain." At the Riding in 1755, the Town Treasurer had to pay not less than £3 for the use of sixty horses, at 1s per head, besides 2s to the "Postmaster for his own trouble." It does not appear whether the imposing ceremony of carrying the town's colours and coronat was then observed. Up to this period, however, there was a most rigorous observance of a singular practice, which was calculated to make a lively impression on those subjected to it, and to prevent their oblivion of one, at least, of the march stones. This was called the "Doupin' Stane," and the use to which it was specially applied is thus referred to by Francis Douglas, who wrote in 1780:—

"Till about twenty-four years ago, that the town feued out most of its lands, it was the custom to ride what was called the Landemyres, or land-marches, yearly, on the last Saturday of August, when the magistrates, town-council, and principal inhabitants, dined at the farm-house of Dykeside, and spent the day very socially. By ancient custom, a particular mark of respect was put upon novices, or those who rode the marches for the first time. It was called douping; a term which cannot be rendered into English, but I shall endeavour to give some idea of it. At the back of the farmhouse there is a large flat rock, a little rounded at the top, and about two feet above the surface of the ground; which the novices saw with terror and wished it sunk to the centre. They were hauled to it with much unfeeling mirth by those who were doup-free burgesses of Dykeside, where they severally underwent the following discipline:—Two of the company took the novice by the shoulders and two others laid hold of his legs, lifting him breast-high above the point of the rock, to which they returned his posterior with a velocity proportioned to their respect for his character. The elevation being thrice repeated, the person was enrolled a free brother-burgess." This "discipline" could only be administered by those who had themselves undergone the ordeal a posteriori, whose regular succession is, we suspect, altogether extinct, so that novices may now approach the stone without "terror," or any wish to see it "sunk to the centre." It has been conjectured that in ancient times this striking ceremony was observed at all the march-stones; but we see no plausible ground for this hypothesis. Not to mention the time which such an observance would have occupied, such repeated "dirding" must have been too much for the endurance of the seats of honour of our forefathers, even on the supposition (which, however, may be fundamentally erroneous) that these were less sensitive than those of the present times. We have it, on the authority of Hudibras, that in the days of Taliacotius, the locality in question was not inaccessible to "sympathetic" visitation! We rather incline to the opinion that the ceremony referred to was confined to Dykeside; and that it was merely "a custom of an afternoon," congenial with the boisterous jollity of primitive times ere yet the "march of intellect" was ridden so desperately, and when "tappit hens" might be tapped of their claret amidst "much unfeeling mirth," at the rate of some 20d per head! There is another remarkable stone, the "Ringing Stane," which is situated near Mill of Ord. This stone had the property of emitting bell-like sounds when struck sharply, an experiment which was duly tried by all who rode the Marches.

We now proceed to record the history of the perambulation which came off on Monday, 7th September, 1840.

On that occasion, therefore, the pealing of the Tolbooth bell at half-past six o'clock and the flaunting of the Union Jack from the bartizan of the Town House gave due intimation of the contemplated business of the day. The cavalcade soon began to muster in Castle Street and Union Street—carriages, gigs, and steeds congregating in rapid succession. The order of procession and the different arrangements were conducted under the auspices of the Town Clerk, who appeared in picturesque and appropriate costume, and gave the necessary directions with his usual precision and effect. The cavalcade began to move along Union Street precisely at seven o'clock. In the van was the "Paul Collinson" of the day, whose part was worthily sustained by Deacon John Smith, one of the most stalwart of the robust and respectable company of Shore Porters, who bore the "town's colours," but without its "coronat"; the former being believed to be the identical standard which the brave Sir Robert Davidson and his fellow-citizens followed to victory in the field of Harlaw; the latter having long since disappeared from the "jewel-office" of the burgh. Our modern "ancient" rode a steed of elephantine proportions, his bridle and

martingale being curiously adorned with shells, which gave him a very jaunty appearance. He was followed by the town serjeants. Next came the Lord Provost, on a superb charger, accompanied by Mr Sheriff Watson, the Convener and Master of Hospital of the Incorporated Trades, and all the Magistrates and Council on horseback, except one or two, who had reasons best known to themselves for preferring the inside of a carriage to the outside of a quadruped! Among the former, one worthy Baillie deserves particular commemoration, who, although "rising" fourscore, set all "fears in the way" at defiance, scornfully refusing to be comforted by the effeminate conveyances of modern invention, but caracolling along with all the skill of an old, and the spirit of a young, trooper! Next came a corps of a hundred horsemen, all most respectably mounted, although evidently displaying various gradations of equestrian accomplishment. About a dozen of carriages and gigs brought up the rear. The route pursued was, of course, as close with that steered on former occasions as circumstances would permit. . . .

All the arrangements were most admirable. There was no lack of "entertainment for men and horses!" . . . About half-past eleven, the party proceeded to complete the perambulation of those marches lying in a northerly direction. At Stoneyford, the horsemen and carriagemen were obliged to separate; the former striking into a mossy field, where the ceremony of burgess-making was taken up in good earnest. It was seen by those in the carriages from a neighbouring height. Some half-dozen of the citizens, including the Town's "Consulter," passed through the ordeal, amid the shouts and laughter of the spectators. No "untoward event" marred the success of the ceremony; the whole went off with much spirit, to the great wonderment of the natives, and the disturbance of the neighbouring echoes, which had not for thirty years been so startled from the profundity of their repose. . . . The party proceeded with their perambulation, until they reached the foot of the Brimmond Hill, noted, in the days of Spalding, for presageful apparitions of armies in the air, with "tucking of drums, heard vively." Here they partook of lunch. . . .—"Aberdeen Journal," 9th September, 1840.

[Another account of the riding of the marches in 1840 (the joint production of Joseph Robertson, William Duncan, and James Bruce), which originally appeared in the "Aberdeen Constitutional," was published under the title of "The Riding of the Landymyrs." An informal riding took place on Wednesday, 2nd September, 1846, attended by only eight of the Town Councillors. A riding was fixed for Saturday, 28th September, 1861. Sir Thomas Blaikie died on Wednesday, the 25th, however, and the ceremony was postponed to Saturday, 12th October, "as a mark of respect for his memory." An account of this riding was published under the title of "The Riding of the Outer Marches," being a reprint of the descriptions contributed (in order of date of publication) to the "Banffshire Journal," "Aberdeen Journal," "Aberdeen Free Press," and "Aberdeen Herald," by William Carnie, William Forsyth, William Alexander, and Lewis Kidd respectively. The last perambulation of the marches was made on Wednesday, 4th September, 1889; and an account of it, along with an account of former ridings, history of the freedom lands, etc., compiled by Robert Anderson, was issued from the "Free Press" Office, under the title of "The Riding of the Marches." Mention is made in it of older perambulations than those referred to in the article quoted above—perambulations in 1525, 1578, and 1673. Mr Anderson also furnished a detailed account of the situation of the march-stones, drawn up from personal observations, to "Scottish Notes and Queries," September, 1889 (III., 50-54).]

The Gordons in Ardmeanach.

Ardmeanach, which is the Gaelic for "middle height," lies in the parish of Glenmuick, and has long been associated with the Gordons. Tradition has assigned the origin of the Ardmeanach Gordons to the family of Knock, and to the Gordons of Braichley, but nothing can be proved. It was his investigations into the history of the Ardmeanach Gordons which kindled the late Mr D. S. R. Gordon's enthusiasm for Gordonology.

John Gordon was tenant of Ardmeanach in 1696 ("Poll Book"). He was married, but his wife's name is not stated.

The connected family starts with another John Gordon, who was born about 1720, and was probably a descendant of the John of 1696. He married, on January 13, 1752 (when he was at Burnside), Jean Watt at Brigend, Glenmuick, and had at least one son—

Peter Gordon in Upper Aucholzie: married Euphemia Small. As a marriage gift, he got from the laird of Abergeldie a punch bowl which came into possession of the late Mr D. S. R. Gordon. Euphemia Small lived to be nearly a hundred years old. He had:—

Jean Gordon, baptised October 11, 1787: died June 18, 1868.

Samuel Gordon, born at Upper Aucholzie, July, 1797. He went to Bellamore, Dinnet, June, 1805. Later on he acquired Woodside, near Brechin. He married, August 25, 1832, Mary Ramsay, Lethnot, Forfarshire, daughter of Alexander Ramsay, Shetland, by his wife Ann Duncan, daughter of James Duncan, Wardhouse, Montrose (1717-92). (This James Duncan's wife, Jean Michie (1732-1795), was the grand-daughter of William Forbes, sixth of Newe. By a curious coincidence Mary Ramsay, Mrs Samuel Gordon's sister, Betty, married, in 1836, Thomas Gordon, Leightnie, Forfarshire, whose ancestors are said to have been descended from the Gordons of Knock.) Samuel Gordon died at

Bellamore at the age of 88. He had ten children—

i. James Gordon, born July 7, 1836; died September 10, 1854.

ii. John Ramsay Gordon, born June 28, 1843; died in infancy.

iii. David [Stewart Ramsay] Gordon, born at Woodside, August 25, 1845. He married at the Inglesia Espiritu Santa, Valparaiso, Chili, November 7, 1877, Jane, daughter of Robert Glegg, of H.M. Exchequer, and died at Edinburgh on June 12, 1905. He was very keenly interested in the history of his Gordon ancestors, and spent a great deal of time transcribing parish registers in search of them. He spent many summers at Ballater, and visited his kinsman, Mr Alexander Forbes, in Aberdeen, a good deal. He was fond of wearing a Gordon tartan kilt. He left an only son—

Reginald Glegg Gordon, born September 26, 1878, at Calle Monte Allegre, Chili; baptised December 25, 1878, at St Paul's Episcopal Church, Valparaiso; godfathers Andrew Henderson and John W. Hardy, there. M.B., C.M., Edinburgh University, 1903. He married on June 10th, 1909, Barbara Mackenzie Morrison and resides at Lettach, Killiecrankie.

iv. John Ramsay Gordon. He married Henrietta Dix, Liverpool, June 15, 1874, and has ten children—

Sidney Gordon, born May 14, 1875; married Elizabeth Carmichael, of Dundee, December 5, 1890.

Florence Mary Gordon, born May 11, 1877; married J. G. Hardy, her cousin.

H. Margaret Gordon, born January 14, 1879.

Adelaide Gordon, born December 5, 1880; died .

William M. Gordon, born October 26, 1882.

Paul Dix Gordon, born July 5, 1884.

Gertrude Gordon, born January 22, 1886.

John R. Gordon, born May 15, 1888.

Jela L. Gordon, born June 24, 1890.

Mary R. Gordon, born February 26, 1892.

v. William Leslie Gordon, born August 28, 1851; married Margaret Rattray Anderson, Ballahill, July 29, 1879, and has

Elizabeth R. Gordon, born 1880.

Samuel G. Gordon, born August 22, 1882.

Stewart R. Gordon, born December 8, 1884.

Frank L. Gordon, born October 9, 1886.

vi. Agnes Gordon, born March 16, 1833; married James Leishman.

vii. Jean Gordon, born September 20, 1834; married Hudson Clinton.

viii. Elizabeth Gordon, born September 20, 1838; married James Menelaus Hardy, son of Captain John Hardy, Greenock. He was from 1855 to 1885 engineer and superintendent with the S.S.N. Company in Valparaiso, Chili. He had

James M. Gordon Hardy, born September 15, 1873; married August 7, 1901, his first cousin, Florence Mary Gordon, daughter of John R. Gordon. She had a son born in Mexico June 19, 1902.

William Gordon Hardy, born December 15, 1875; an engineer.

Elizabeth Hardy, born March 6, 1864.

Margaret M. Hardy, born March 20, 1879.

ix. Margaret Gordon, born April 20, 1841; married Robert Millar, Glasgow, and has Robert and Minnie.

x. Mary Ann Gordon, born January 5, 1854; died unmarried May 24, 1903.

J. M. Bulloch.

John Imlah.

I notice that in his most interesting communication on John Imlah, the poet, "Alba" puts to me a query as to whether any posthumous volume by Imlah was ever issued. I know of none. His two volumes of 1827 and 1841 are well known, and contain, I should imagine, all of his writings that were really worth while. Our best information about Imlah, as "Alba" suggests, is contained in Mr William Walker's "Bards of Bon-Accord," one of our indispensable books. Mr Walker omits, I think, an interesting point about Imlah, viz.—That he was one of the personages and speakers at the public dinner to William Thom, the "Inverury Poet," in the Crown and Anchor, London, in 1845. His speech is referred to by Forbes Robertson in his admirable biographical sketch of Thom in the Paisley edition of "Rhymes and Recollections," and it will be found in full in the now scarce pamphlet "Report of the Proceedings at a Dinner Given to Mr William Thom," a copy of which was recently added to the "Local Collection" in the Aberdeen Public Library.

John Imlah, it may be said, was one of the poets included by Dr Charles Rogers in his series of volumes "The Modern Scottish Minstrel," vol. IV., 1857. Rogers gave a short memoir of Imlah, and some half a dozen of his poems. Imlah wrote two versions of

"O, gin I were where Gadie rins."

It cannot be said that they are of very great quality, although I noticed that one of his versions was given in the series "Songs of the Shires" in "T.P.'s Weekly" in the issue for

1st January, 1904. Rogers tells a curious story of Imlah's song, "The Ingathering,"

"Rise, rise! Lowland and Highlandman,"

published in his "May Flowers" in 1827. He sent a copy of the song in MS. to James Hogg, the Ettrick shepherd. It was found among Hogg's papers after his death, and was classed as his in the five-volume edition of his works, published by Blackie, under the editorship of D. O. Hill, the sculptor. (See vol. 5, p. 27.) It is also in Blackie's later edition, edited by Thomson. (Vol. 2, p. 405.)

A curious error is sometimes made with regard to Imlah's poem where the stanza occurs beginning—

"Here's Aberdeen an' time till't, as
The auld wife said at Loch o' Skene."

This is sometimes printed as the first stanza of the poem. It is really the last stanza, properly printed in the "Bards," p. 428.

By the way, John Imlah had his portrait painted by his townsman, John Phillip, R.A. It was exhibited as No. 1 of Phillip's works in the London International Exhibition in 1873. It then belonged to Mr John Reid, of Glasgow. Can anyone say where this portrait is now? Surely it ought to be in Aberdeen.

G. M. Fraser.

The Sinclairs.

Perhaps it may interest those possessing the old Norse name of Sinclair to know that a genealogical work on this great family was published at Auckland, New Zealand, in 1898, entitled "The Saint Clairs of the Isles and their Scottish successors of the sirname of Sinclair," arranged and annotated by Roland William St Clair. I have had a perusal of the work, a substantial quarto. The writer was born in Kirkwall on 9th July, 1862, and taken to New Zealand when three years old. His father, James Leask St Clair, was a native of Stromness, and engaged in mercantile pursuits in Leith, London, and New York, ultimately adopting journalism as a profession, and editing the "Oreadian" for some time. He emigrated to New Zealand in 1865 and became a schoolmaster, dying in 1895. It was from his extensive collection of documents connected with the Sinclairs that the son compiled the genealogical work. It is a handsome volume, illustrated with portraits and views, and apparently contains all that is important in the history of this once-potent sept.

Alba.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1839.

14th January. Adam Gordon, Esq. of Blackheath Park, youngest son of the late David Gordon, Esq. of Abergeldie.

22nd January. At the Manse, Kinellar, Jane Fordyce, in her 100th year.

1st February. At the Manse, Oyne, Rev. Alexander Cushny, Minister of Oyne, in his 86th year.

1st February. Mr Robert Moir, Farmer, Tarty, aged 67.

19th February. John Charles Ogilvie, M.D., aged 54.

23rd February. At Richmondhill, aged 68, Mrs Margaret Boyn, widow of Thomas M'Combie, Esq. of Easter Skene.

9th March. At Huntly, Elizabeth Grant, aged 101.

11th March. At Memsie, Charles Leslie, M.D., in his 65th year.

30th March. At Maybank, Miss Mary Jane, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Dr Minty of Kennethmont.

28th April. At Crimond, Rev. William Boyd, Minister of that parish, in his 85th year.

13th April. At Charleston, South Carolina, in his 41st year, William Dingwall Fordyce, second son of the late William Dingwall Fordyce of Techmuiry.

28th March. At Aurora, Wisconsin Territory, U.S., John Beattie, aged 30, youngest son of the late Dr Beattie, Insch.

15th May. At his house Bon-Accord Square, in his 62nd year, John Leith Ross, Esq of Arnage and Bourtie.

1st June. At Cotton, James Rust of Auchinclech, aged 68.

11th June. Here, Rev. Ludovick Grant, Minister of Methlick, aged 85.

3rd June. At London, James John Fraser, W.S., son of the late Charles Fraser, Esq. of Williamston, aged 33.

10th July. Here, George Watt, Surgeon, aged 76.

14th July. At Strochery, near Banff, Stewart Souter, Esq. of Melrose, in his 75th year.

16th July. At the Schoolhouse, Dyce, Mr John Rae, Schoolmaster there, aged 45.

19th August. At Aberdeen, Mrs Forbes of Balgownie.

12th August. At Charlton House, Forfarshire, Arthur Anderson, Esq. of Charlton.

4th October. Here, Rev. John Stirling, Minister of Peterculter, in his 55th year.

23rd October. Here, Mrs Cock, widow of Rev. Alexander Cock, Minister of Cruden, in her 85th year.

28th October. At Knowsie, Mrs Lumsden Shirrefs [Margaret Smith], of Blairmormond, aged 77.

23rd October. Here, aged 16, David, son of the late Rev. William Malcolm, Minister of Leochel-Cushnie.

15th November. Here, aged 12, John Malcolm, also son of Rev. W. Malcolm.

11th November. At Aberdour House, William Gordon, Esq. of Aberdour, aged 67.

9th October. Sir Francis Gordon, Bart. of Lesmore, in his 76th year.

18th December. Here, Sophia Fraser, wife of Rev. George Cruden, Logie-Buchan.

17th December. At Balmade, King-Edward, Mrs Taylor, relict of George Taylor of Balmade, and sister-german of Chief Justice Reid, Canada, in her 72nd year.

15th December. At 6 Chanonry, Old Aberdeen, Captain Alexander Gerard, late H.E.I.C.S., second son of the late Dr Gilbert Gerard, Professor of Divinity in King's College.

15th December. At Old Deer, Alexander Webster, Parochial Schoolmaster, aged 67.

30th December. Here, Mrs Burnett, widow of John Burnett, Esq. of Elrick.

22nd December. Here, George Symmers, Esq. of Cults, aged 74.

Queries.

432. Two Gold Coins.—(1) I am the possessor of a gold coin about the size of a sovereign, bearing on one side the head with a fillet round it, and encircled by "Joseph. Nap. D. G. Hisp. et Ind. R. 1812." On the reverse side is a shield bearing the Spanish Royal Arms with the French Eagle superimposed in the centre. This is surrounded by the collar of the Golden Fleece with its pendant. Encircling it is ". x . in . utroq . Felix . xx . Auspice Deo. IV." Where I have put the first x there is something, like a letter or figure with a dot on each side which I cannot make out, and where I have put the xx the Crown surmounting the shield divides the inscription. The milling comes slightly on the surface of the coin on both sides.

(2) I also own a 40-franc gold piece of Napoleon's, of the same date, 1812. It bears Napoleon's head with "Napoleon Empereur" on one side. On the other side are shown a wreath of laurel, with "Empire Francais" beyond it and "40 Francs" in the centre—"1812" underneath.

The first-mentioned coin is commemorative of the brief reign of Joseph Bonaparte, eldest brother of Napoleon Bonaparte, who, by the latter, was made king of Spain and the Indies.

Are these coins rare, and what might be their present monetary value?

C. M. D.

433. Admiral Norwich Duff.—Where could I see an accurate account of the genealogy and naval career of Admiral Norwich Duff?

G. Y.

434. "The Acts of the Gordons."—On the margin of the fourth edition of Spottiswoode's "History of the Kirk of Scotland," 1677 (p. 390), occurs this note—"I have read in a MS. called "The Acts of the Gordons" that Glenmuich, Glentaner, Strathdee, and Birs were spoiled, and Bracklie and his son-in-law slain by Mackondoquuy of Inneraw." What is this "Acts of the Gordons"?

J. M. Bulloch.

Answers.

426. Burgess-Donaldson Marriage. — The marriage inquired about took place at the Manse of Rathven on 27th April, 1816.

G. D.

429. Lewis Innes of Balnacraig.—Margaret Innes, second daughter of Mr Lewis Innes of Balnacraig, was married at Ballogie on 29th September, 1817, to Mr W. D. Lynch, of Great Russel Street, London.

G. D.

430. Laurencekirk. — The church of this parish was dedicated to St Laurence, regarding whom Mr Jervise writes ("Epitaphs," I., 253)—Laurencekirk "has been long known by the name of the patron saint of the Church, whom the late laborious Dr Joseph Robertson discovered, contrary to popular belief, to be not S. Laurence of the Roman Calendar, but the ancient Primate of England, who bore the same name."

Mearnsman.

No. 99.—March 9, 1910.

A VANISHING INDUSTRY.

Aberdeen Breweries.

A recent announcement in the "Aberdeen Journal," that there is every likelihood of the Devanha Brewery being sold, and that there is every prospect of the brewery having successful and prosperous days in store, recalls the fact that brewing was at one period an important industry in Aberdeen. Even within the last half-century the malting business was a flourishing concern. About a dozen establishments, of greater or less size, existed in healthy activity, giving employment to many workers in this and allied industries. But gradually a change has come over this field of trade, largely due, no doubt, to the change of public taste in the matter of liquid refreshments; and the great brewing houses in the south, with their modern improvements, have established a footing for their goods here, with the result that the local manufacturers have had, to a considerable degree, to yield their ground, and now, according to the Aberdeen Directory, only three establishments remain to represent the once-powerful class of local brewers. It is estimated that 90 per cent. of the ale and porter now consumed in Aberdeen is imported. The magnitude of this revolution will be more fully grasped when it is mentioned that just a hundred years ago the various brewers in the city produced an estimated total of 22,700 barrels of porter, strong ale, and table beer.

In ancient times, both in England and Scotland, brewing seems to have formed a part of the domestic economy of every household, and the Burgh Records from the fourteenth to the eighteenth centuries—extracts from which have been published by the Spalding Club and the Burgh Record Society—bear ample evidence of the extent to which beer-making was engaged in in Aberdeen. Municipal statutes regulating the prices of provisions of all kinds are frequently to be met with, and brewing in particular seems to have caused the authorities no little concern. "Certain vyffs" of unfreemen were on 16th October, 1538, brought up for "brewing xvid aill and xiid ail," and warned "to forbeyr in tyme cumming," the ladies presumably having engaged in a little illicit manufacture. Then, again, coming down a hundred years or so, we find the "Counsell" ordaining, in a day in October, 1656, that, until further notice, the "pryce of all aill and bear" shall be as follows—"vizt the pynt of strong aill or bear, the best sort, not to be above two shillings Scots"—that is, 2d in the coinage of to-day—"under the pains of fyve pounds money, toties quoties."

Like their predecessors a century before, "the Counsell" appear to have had trouble with the "unfriemen" element on this drink problem, for they "discharge all that class, also young women and widows whose husbands were not friemen," to brew any aill or beir within this burghe in tyme comeing, under the pains of ten punds besyd further punishment." Reform was apparently needed in the drinking habits of the community. Quite "a scandal," one may be sure, was raised on the discovery, in 1658, that the millers at the town's mills had been brewing and selling "aill" to "the great prejudice of the people," and "deboshing themselves and obstructing of the malt that comes to the mills." It was ordained that no miller in the town's employment should henceforth, without special liberty, manufacture or sell "ail, beir, or aquavite," under a penalty of "twentie punds money to the town's thesaurer." Recognised establishments for the production of liquors, malt and spirituous, were now, no doubt, beginning to spring up, and it was for the encouragement and protection of these manufactories, in all probability, that all querns and handmills set up in the burgh for the grinding of malt or any other grain should be "demolished and broken down to pieces."

Consulting Kennedy, the earliest mention found of a brewery being established in Aberdeen is in 1638. One is not surprised to read, however, that being restricted in their prices by the municipal laws of the burgh, the company seem to have made very little progress in business, and gave it up in a few years. Gilcomston was founded in 1768; Bon-Accord, in Union Glen, in 1785; Devanha—which remains to this day, and is still the leading local brewery—in 1807, by William Black and Company; and then there were the Old Town establishments, and as the Bakers and Brewers formed one of the six Incorporated Trades of the ancient city of Aberdeen, several manufactories existed there at a pretty early date. In the trading charter granted to Old Aberdeen by King James in 1498, and printed in Orem's book, brewers are mentioned amongst others. From this same history also we learn that the Treasurer had reported to the baillies on 21st May, 1681, that he being obliged to pay to the town 20l. Scots of brew-custom, the greater part of the brewers had delayed, and many of them had refused to pay, though formerly in use to do so. So that the Anton contributed no small share to the malting business.

After the establishment of Gilcomston Brewery, says Kennedy, many other works of the same kind were commenced in the town, some of which succeeded; but others, after several years' trial, were given up as being unprofitable concerns to the proprietors. Still, the survivors did well, and thriving little breweries were to be found in quiet little corners all over the town, such as the Lochside, Mealmarket Street, King Street,

and Holburn Street. What Aberdeen "loon" of the mid-Victorian era but must, on errand bent, have set his foot at one time or another within some of those to him quaint, mysterious, gloomy interiors, which, in some of their departments, had to be artificially lighted even at noon, their vats, looming in the shadows, and exhaling a rich, fresh, delicious perfume of barm! In those unpretentious but fragrant recesses, the humbler drinks were made; and did the art—or science—ever produce a finer quencher of thirst than the spruce ale of the 'fifties and 'sixties? Non-intoxicating, how it sparkled and creamed, and how its agreeable tartness, after a generous draught, made the very lugs crack!

But to return to our Annalist, and close with the theme with which we started. Writing in 1818, Kennedy says the principal work of this kind is "distinguished by the name, Devanha Brewery, and is situated upon the banks of the Dee about a mile from the harbour. It is carried on by Messrs William Black and Company, and has acquired a great celebrity for the excellence of its porter, not only in the town, but in Edinburgh, Glasgow, and other places. The porter of this brewery is frequently exported to London, where it also finds a ready market. This branch of business is successfully conducted by the company upon an extensive scale." Not less famous, at a later stage, became the company's "East India Pale Ale"—the "Round O," as it was popularly termed from the design of the label. William Black and Company have long outlived their leading rivals, and still enjoy a high reputation for their products. May it be the happy lot of the Annalist of the twentieth century to record that the new departure marked the rejuvenescence of Devanha and the Aberdeen brewing industry generally!

The 81st (Aberdeenshire) Highlanders.

Mr J. M. Bulloch has followed up his accounts of the regiments raised by the ducal family of Gordon (See "The Northern Fencibles," No. 55, May 5, 1909, and No. 82, November 10, 1909) with an account of "The Raising of the 81st (Aberdeenshire) Highlanders in 1778 by Colonel the Hon. William Gordon of Fyvie"—an operation in which the fourth Duke of Gordon was by no means indirectly concerned. To meet the cry for more troops occasioned by the lack of success of the British forces in the war with America in the end of 1777, the Duke proposed to raise a regiment in the north of Scotland; but his grace had also in view the providing of a post for his brother, Lord William Gordon, whom he evidently designed for the command of the corps. The King (George III.), however, did not approve, but, on the contrary, sanctioned a concurrent proposal to raise a Northern regiment made by Colonel the Hon. William Gordon, of Fyvie—son of the 2nd Earl of Aberdeen, and, through his mother, first cousin of the Duke of Gordon—who was at the time one of the Grooms of the Bedchamber of His Majesty. This regiment became the 81st (Aberdeenshire) Highlanders. It would appear that the intention of the King and the army authorities—and the professed intention of Colonel Gordon—was that it should be raised with the Duke's approbation and under his influence; that is, largely recruited from his estates. Colonel Gordon, however, declined to give the Duke the nomination of a single officer; and on the Duke complaining to the Colonel's brother (who afterwards became Lord Rockville), the latter answered—"Well, by God, we can raise it [the regiment] without you." The upshot was that the Duke proceeded to raise a regiment of his own, the Northern Fencibles; and a very keen competition in recruiting for the two regiments ensued. "The county took sides in the quarrel, the non-Gordon lairds rallying to the laird of Fyvie, not because they cared so much for him, but they had the chance of wiping off some old scores with the head of the house." The recruiters for Colonel Gordon's regiment gave great offence by "beating-up" in the Duke's Highland territory, and particularly by invading the town of Huntly, a special preserve of his grace. Recruiting was carried on in a singular fashion in those days, judging from the following description in a letter—

"Lady and Captain Leith, Leith-hall, and the two Captains Leith of Buchan were in Huntly (on January 22). Leithhall and Alexander Leith and all the recruits they could muster made a grand procession thro' the town, and had punch on the streets. They beat up, but I did not come so near them as to know what they offered; but a little before that his sergeant offered 20 guineas. . . I was told (Gordon of) Wardhouse came to them that day. At night there was another procession thro' the town with flambearers, and music, etc. Leithhall arrived at Huntly before the post on Thursday and brought the news that was in the papers about the Duke's conference. They were in Huntly all Friday and got some youngsters there. I have not learned who it was but some or other made an excursion into the streets and pulled down all the signs in the town except one. Leithhall was angry at it. There has been a bonfire in the Square: I was told it was the boys that made it. Yesterday (January 24) the three Captain Leiths and Wardhouse set out for Turriff. Leithhall has now enlisted four men in Huntly. From the parade that has been made and the temptation of gold, I am surprised they are not more."

There are other and even worse instances of "decoying" men into service, and quarrels occurred between rival recruiting parties at markets. Finally, both the 81st and the Northern Fencibles were completed. The former, which consisted of ten companies of 100 men each, spent most of its time in Ireland, landing at Kinsale in June 1778. The two regiments were disbanded in 1783.

Inscriptions in Union United Free Church, Aberdeen.

A marble tablet inserted in the centre of a massive granite memorial, with three rustic bases, bears the following inscription—

Near this spot are deposited
the earthly remains of
The Rev. William Lyon,
Late Pastor of the Union Chapel.
His sorrowful flock,
in token of their affectionate remembrance
erected this monument.
He appeared among them for
a short season:
His public ministrations spoke to
their consciences:
His pastoral visits touched their hearts:
His whole conduct enlarged their apprehensions
of the sanctifying influence
of a simple faith in the son of God.
He was born at Glamis 13th July, 1798:
He was ordained 8th August, 1823:
He died 4th July, 1828.

Rev. William Lyon was the third son of Rev. James Lyon, parish minister of Glamis. He graduated at Marischal College, 2nd April, 1816, and was licensed by the Presbytery of Forfar, 21st June, 1820. He was ordained to the Union Chapel of Ease, according to Scott's "Fasti," on 7th August, 1823, but the inscription quoted says 8th.

In a lengthy eulogistic obituary contributed to the "Aberdeen Journal" four days after his death, the following passage occurs—"He was naturally ardent in his disposition, affable in his manners, kind in his heart; and surely his engaging endowments appeared in the most attractive light, and were turned to the best purposes, when, satisfied by the Gospel, they were devoted, we had almost said exclusively, to the everlasting interests of a large and affectionate congregation. When we would tell what Mr Lyon was, it is not an ordinary character we attempt to delineate. The zeal that he displayed in the discharge of the multiplied duties of his sacred office, appeared to most of his brethren altogether astonishing." The remains of Mr Lyon were deposited in a vault below the church hall. It may be mentioned that Rev. David Simpson, minister of Trinity Chapel, in publishing the sermon he preached at the death of Rev. William Leith, South Parish Church, in 1832, gave in an appendix the conclusion of another sermon preached on the death of Mr Lyon. (Aberdeen: George King, 1832.)

A clock in the church bears to have been "Presented by William J. Sim, Merchant, Elsinore, Denmark, 1822.' It was apparently furnished by "Geo. Angus, Aberdeen." According to the "Aberdeen Directory," 1824-5, George Angus, watch and clock maker, had business premises at 72 Broad Street, and resided in 4 Drum's Lane. His name, however, disappears from the 1831-2 issue, the address of his widow being given as 79 Broad Street.

The communion set, subscribed for by the congregation in 1834 or thereby, consists of two flagons (made of Britannia metal), four plates, and six sterling silver cups inscribed "Union Chapel."

The communion tokens (discontinued about 1890) were of oblong shape, with cut corners. They were inscribed as follows:—Obverse—On an oblong frame around the outside with borders—"Free / Union / Church. / Aberdeen"; on an inside frame a burning bush with the motto "Nec tamen consumebatur." Reverse —"Luke xii., 19. / This do in / remembrance / of me. / I. Cor. xi., 24-28."

BUILDING AND RELICS.

Over the church entrance appears the date 1822, this being the date of erection of the building. It was altered to its present style about November, 1871, during the ministry of Rev. A. M. Bannatyne. Originally seated for 1200, it was then reduced to accommodate 610. There was a school attached to the church, with a minister's manse above. The school property was sold to the late Mr George Pegler, fruit merchant, Aberdeen, to be used as a warehouse.

At one time there was a beautiful model of a warship suspended from the roof of the church. When the building underwent the structural alterations just mentioned, the model was given to Mr Collie, advocate, Aberdeen, for preservation, and was removed by him to his house at Pitfodels. Some time afterwards it was returned to the church, and kept under the gallery of the schoolroom in Virginia Street. Where is the model now?

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

Gordons in the Glenrinnes Part of Aberlour.

William Gordon (1719-90), who was in Auchorachan from about 1773 to his death, was probably a native of Aberlour. At anyrate he left money to the poor of that parish. The legacy does not seem to have been paid, for there is no notice of it in the Kirk-Session Records of Aberlour, but that may have arisen from the disputes that seem to have broken out among his family after his death. Then William had a brother, Robert, in Glenrinnes, apparently alive at his death. Now, a Robert Gordon in Favillar was admitted an elder by the kirk-session of Aberlour in 1762, and he may have been alive in 1791. There were Gordons at that time in the part of Glenrinnes that was in Aberlour parish, e.g., James Gordon in Glenrinnes was admitted an elder in 1793 (I think he was in Balmerion); in 1732, John Gordon, son to

Robert Gordon in Clashmerloch, acknowledged that he had married "in droll" James Shepherd and Marjorie Grant on the first Sabbath of March, and the session fined him and his father £20 conjunctly, Shepherd and Grant £4 each, and the witnesses of the mock ceremony £2 each. The amount of fine shows that the Gordons were comparatively well-to-do. Balmerion, Favillar, and Clashmerloch all lay close to each other in the Aberlour portion of Glenrinnes.

S. R.

John Imlah.

With reference to the Note in No. 94 by "Alba," of Melbourne, I must take exception to one or two points in the sketch furnished of the career of Imlah. First, it is stated by "Alba" that Imlah was a sixth son. Can any authority for such a statement be furnished? In our old country we can produce the "Dictionary of National Biography," Rogers's "Modern Scottish Minstrel," 1857; "Whistle Binkie," and Walker's "Bards of Bon-Accord" —all agreeing that he was the seventh son of Baillie Imlah, innkeeper, Cuminestone (not farmer from Fyvie), who came to Aberdeen in 1798 to be an innkeeper there in West North Street. The further remarks by "Alba" show a meagre acquaintance with Imlah's poetic merits, but this fault may be excused on account of his distance from Bon-Accord, as well as from the period when Imlah wrote. In short, to my mind, "Alba" has not touched upon Imlah's most meritorious lyrics, which appeal strongly to all lovers of the muse.

O. A. P.

[In the Note by "Alba" referred to, one authority is quoted that Imlah was a seventh son, and no allegation is made that his father was a farmer. The father is there designed as "an innkeeper from Fyvie" (Fyvie being his native parish), and in the Register of Births, of date 15th November, 1799, he is called "stabler."—Ed.]

Quintin Matsys.

In Bryan's "Dictionary of Painters and Engravers," new edition of 1904, it is stated concerning this famous painter, whose name appears as Matsys, Massys, and Metsijs (for the Flemings put the "i" and "j" close together, making it appear like a "y"; thus Van Dijck, and so on), that he died in 1529 or 1530, and was buried in a small yard adjoining the Church of Our Lady—likewise that the tombstone had disappeared before the close of that century. The story of this ingenious blacksmith becoming artist for the sake of a painter's daughter is too well known to be repeated here; however, it is maintained that Quintin was a native of Louvain, born there in 1460, and afterwards settled in Antwerp. So far the book specifies; but it is somewhat odd to find a tombstone to this man stuck in the out-side wall of Antwerp Cathedral, not far from the great entrance. I thought that it was some Irish scholar named Quin who had obtained sepulture there, for the stone, which is different in colour from the fabric, begins thus—"Hic jace Quin" —the next line supplying the necessary elucidation—"tino Metsys, pictoris Antwerpen, qui obiit 1529"; then follows a rude figure of a skull, with three lozenges, I suppose, underneath. I did not copy the precise words of the inscription, as it rained heavily at the time, and I was glad to get the shelter of the Cathedral; but that is the gist of it. My idea is that, when the old burying-ground was about to be utilised for building purposes, Matsys' tombstone was reverently preserved and built into the wall of the Cathedral. But I can get no verification of this. However, the stone is there, and some other wayfarer may try his ingenuity at it. Strangely enough, the people who profess to know all about these things are discreetly silent on this subject. It might be to his son, who was also named Quintin, and who painted indifferently; but "quien sabe?"

ALBA.

"Edom o' Gordon" in German.

It may not be known that this ballad was translated into German by Karl Knortz in a pamphlet of "Schottische Balladen" published at Hallo in 1875 (No. 33). There is a copy in the British Museum. Knortz also translated (according to Professor Child) Allingham's version of the Baron of Braichlie in his "Lieder und Romanzen" (v. i., 56).

J. M. B.

Peculiar Marriage Announcements.

September ——. At ——, Mr Austin, formerly of Drurylane Theatre, to a lady of £24,000 fortune, near Whitehaven. She is near 90 years of age: and it is said her relations are determined to apply for a statute of lunacy against her.

Dec. ——. At Dublin, the Earl of Farnham, to Mrs Upton, a widow lady, with a fortune of £40,000.

Decr. 13. At London, George Poyntz Ricketts, Esq., of Jamaica, to Miss Watts, daughter of the late Governor Watts, with a fortune of £20,000. "Weekly Magazine" of 10th October, 26th December, 1771, and 24th December, 1772.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary.

1840.

9th January. At Blackheath, near London, John Gordon, Esq. of Newton, Aberdeenshire.

11th January. At Manse of Fettercairn, Mrs Margaret Farquhar, widow of Rev. James Shand, Minister of Marykirk, in her 73rd year.

2nd February. At Manse of Newmachar, Rev. Alexander Simpson, in his 84th year.

31st January. At Manse of Foveran, Rev. Maxwell Gordon, minister of that parish, in his 47th year.

1st February. At Manse of Crathie, Rev. Alexander Macfarlane, in his 72nd year.

22nd February. At New Pitsligo, of typhus fever, William F. Sharp, surgeon, aged 35.

11th March. At London, Mr William Bannerman, author of the "Aberdeen Worthies."

15th March. At Aberdeen, William Forbes Robertson, Esq. of Hazlehead, in his 49th year.

13th April. At Huntly, in his 31st year, William Dunbar, writer there.

1st May. At his house, 254 Union Street, John Forbes, Esq. of Blackford, in his 82nd year.

20th April. At Huntly, aged 72, Alexander Harper, for upwards of forty years Schoolmaster of Rhynie.

2nd May. At Monymusk [Rev.] Lewis A. Duff, Parochial Schoolmaster [aged 72].

3rd May. At Fraserburgh, James Wilson, Esq., Surgeon, aged 30.

10th May. At Exeter, in his 82nd year, Colonel Thomas Abernethy, late Royal Marines, son of the late William Abernethy, Esq. of Crimonmogate.

31st May. Sir Alexander Bannerman, Bart., in his 71st year.

15th June. At Southampton, Fanny [Bridges], beloved wife of John Duff Dingwall, Esq. of Brucklaw Castle, in her 26th [? 25th] year.

10th June. At Midmar, Thomas Best Cheves, Surgeon, in his 30th year.

25th June. Here, John Richardson, manufacturer.

15th July. At 52 Dee Street, Sarah Burnett, wife of John Whyte, Clothier, aged 51.

16th July. At Linton, William Burnet Craigie, Esq. of Linton.

11th July. At Milton of Rothiemay, Isobel Ogilvie, relict of John Randal, at the advanced age of 102.

30th July. Mr John Munro, Straw Hat Manufacturer, Queen Street, aged 52.

29th July. At Manse of Slains, Rev. Gavin Gibb Dunn, Minister of Slains.

11th August. At 47 Schoolhill, Rev. James Templeton, of the United Associate Congregation, Belmont Street, in his 70th year.

18th August. At Baguires de Bigoire, France, Lieutenant-General Benjamin Gordon of Balbithan.

27th July. At Richmond, near London, Robert Aberdein, Esq., late of Cairnbulg, in his 94th year. He was the oldest advocate connected with the Scottish Bar.

18th August. At 43 Dee Street, Mrs Mary Garden, widow of Lewis A. Duff, schoolmaster, Monymusk.

26th August. At Spear Mill, Marykirk, Mr William Rae, formerly vintner, Marykirk; so famed as a violinist that he was called "the Neil Gow of the Mearns."

9th September. At Keith, Alexander Thurburn, Esq., bank agent, in his 66th year.

8th September. At Manse of Alvah, Rev. James Sangster, in his 63rd year.

25th September. At Netherley, George Silver, Esq. of Netherley, Convener of Kincardineshire, aged 70.

26th October. At Carlisle, John Duff Dingwall, Esq. of Brucklay [in his 25th year].

2nd November. Here, Helen Morison, only surviving daughter of the late James Morison of Elsick.

4th November. At Strichen, Mr James Nicol, feuar there, aged 76. He has bequeathed £400 for establishing a free school in the village of Mormond.

7th November. At Fraserburgh, Rev. Alexander Begg, A.M., Pastor of the Congregational Church there, aged 53.

8th November. At Richmondhill, Thomas M'Combie of Richmondhill, paper manufacturer, in his 27th year.

8th November. At the Schoolhouse, Lonmay, aged 77, Rev. James Davidson, fifty-seven years parochial schoolmaster there.

16th November. At her house, Westburn, in her 80th year, Miss Eliza Cruden, daughter of the late William Cruden, Esq., formerly Provost of this city.

20th November. At Pitfichie, Monymusk, Charles Low, aged 94, who practised upwards of fifty years as a surgeon in the district where he died.

19th December. At Manse of Premnay, Mrs Wilson, in her 36th year.

20th December. At Ventnor, Isle of Wight, aged 39, John Forbes, eldest son of Sir Charles Forbes, Bart.

20th December. At Mormond House, James Strachan, Esq., M.D., of Corfu, Inspector-General of Hospitals.

Queries.

435. Stewarts in Banffshire.—In the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries there were the following families of the name of Stewart in Lower Banffshire:—

Stewart of Ryland, in Alvah Parish.
Stewart of Bog, in Alvah Parish.
Stewart of Ordens, in Boyndie Parish, and
Stewart of Badlinspink, in Boyndie Parish.

What branch of the family do they belong to, and where can an account of their descents be obtained?

G.

436. Patrick Robertson Gordon.—He was born in Aberdeen in 1834, emigrated to Victoria in 1853, and was engaged as a squatter till 1864, when he was appointed Metropolitan Inspector of Stock in Sydney. In 1868 he was made Chief Inspector of Sheep in Queensland, and in 1872 was appointed Registrar of Brands in addition (Mennell's "Dictionary of Australian Biography," 1892). Who was his father? Was he any relation of Andrew Robertson Gordon, Canada, who died in 1893?

J. M. Bulloch.

437. Simpson and Whyte, Clothiers, Aberdeen.—When did Alexander Simpson cease to be a partner in this business?

A. B.

438. Blairfindy Castle, Banffshire.—I am particularly anxious to secure information regarding this old castle and its proprietors. Can any reader oblige me with authorities bearing on the subject?

G. O. W.

Answers.

338. Alteration in Dates of Fairs. — The old Scottish fair or country market forms a curious and interesting study for anyone who is fond of looking into the old times. The open market was a matter of necessity when currency was scarce and business was confined to exchange or barter. Travelling was in these days difficult, and there was no idea of foreign commerce. After the union of the kingdoms, and the settlement of the Jacobite troubles, country trade took up a more southerly direction, and the drove roads were opened to the trysts at Falkirk and Edinburgh, and even across the Border, but the country markets were used as feeders for the southern markets, and their little stands of sundries met the local needs. They were occasions for all sorts of traffic according to the season of the year, and some of them occupied several days. A provision for the fair had always a place in the royal charter, and care was taken to have the date duly defined, often upon a Sunday, or the festival of the patron saint. At the Reformation, every effort was made to keep the market apart from the Sunday, and in the re-arrangement Tuesday was usually the day set for the fair, while the stance was removed from the Parish Church. Dr Cramond's "Records of Elgin" are full of illustrations of the "Alteration in the Dates of Fairs." Each ecclesiastical province took care of its own fairs, though there might be room for concessions, as in the fixing of the Lowran Fairs at Rayne and at Laurencekirk and the Michael Fairs at Kintore and Drumlithie. Modern conditions of life and business have entirely changed the position of the old fairs, and many of them have been swallowed up in the weekly mart or monthly market.

1. S. Serf's Fair was in 1628 held at Monkeigie, now Keith-hall. At a later date it was transferred to Culsalmond, where it now stands on the Wednesday after the first Tuesday of June (O.S.).

2. S. James's Fair.

3. Lammas Fair is at Turriff on the last Tuesday in July (O.S.).

4. Laurence Fair, better known as Lowran Fair, at Rayne, used to occupy the whole week of the first Tuesday of August (O.S.), but now it stands on the Wednesday after the first Tuesday of August (O.S.).

5. Laurence (Lowran) Fair in the Mearns, stands at Laurencekirk on the second Tuesday of August (O.S.).

6. Marymas Fair was at Ellon on September 8, the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin, the patron of the parish.

7. Bartlemas Fair at Barile Chapel, in Tarves, was on the third day of August (O.S.), and is now on the Friday after August 23. August 24 is the feast of S. Bartholomew.

8. S. Malrin's Fair. Under the disguise of many different local forms, from S. Rufus to S. Maree, we find the name of the ancient Irish abbot, who almost out-rivalled S. Columba in the evangelisation of the West Coast of Scotland. Maelrubha or Mabruvius, the recluse and patron saint of Applecross, in Ross-shire. His fair was at Keith, and was known as Simmarees Fair, on August 27, the patron's day. It was transferred to the first Tuesday in September (O.S.). Fell Maree is held at Dingwall on the first Wednesday of September.

9. Michael Fair is at Kinkell on the Friday after the second Tuesday, and at Drumlithie on the Thursday.

10. Cowan Fair, at Turriff, stood on the first Tuesday of October (O.S.). The feast of S. Congan, the patron saint, is October 15.

11. Trawel Fair; that is, S. Rule's Fair, at Kennethmont, was on the second Tuesday of October, the saint's day being October 17.

12. Hallow Fair.

13. Martinmas Fair.

14. Bryak Fair stood at the Kirk of Coull, and Braoch's Fair at Inchbrayoch, beside Montrose.

15. Andersmas Fair used to stand at the Cross, Old Rayne.

16. Dustan Fair was at Old Deer (or Mintlaw) on Wednesday after December 19 (O.S.), but fairs bearing the same name were held at Insch, Banff, and Aberlour. December 14 is S. Drostane's Day.

17. Ash Wednesday Fair.

18. Mid Lentron Fair was at Banchory-Ternan on the last Thursday of March, but probably shifted with the season of Lent.

19. Skeir Thursday Fair was at Old Aberdeen on the Thursday before Easter; also at Dumbarton.

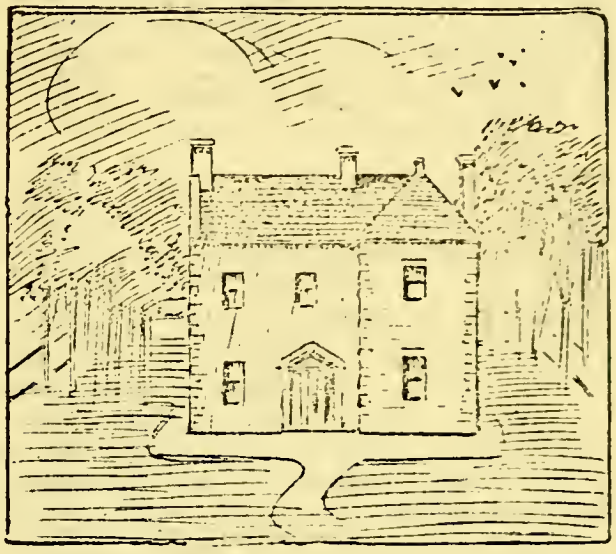
20. Donald Fair is probably Donnan Fair, held at Auchterless on the second Tuesday of April (O.S.). The feast of S. Donnan was April 17.

21. Ruid, Rood, or Red Fair stood at Ellon on the third Tuesday of May, May 3 being Holy Cross Day.

JAMES GAMMACK, LL.D.

West Hartford, Conn., U.S.A.

408. NELLFIELD HOUSE, ABERDEEN.—An esteemed correspondent, who has a boyhood recollection of Nellfield House, has obligingly made a pen and ink drawing of it from which the annexed illustration is taken.



Our correspondent explains that the house used to be pointed out to him by his mother, as having been the residence of Dr Livingston, who in far-off days was a prominent physician in Aberdeen, and is said to have been a descendant of the Earls of Linlithgow, whose title was attainted in 1716.

EDITOR.

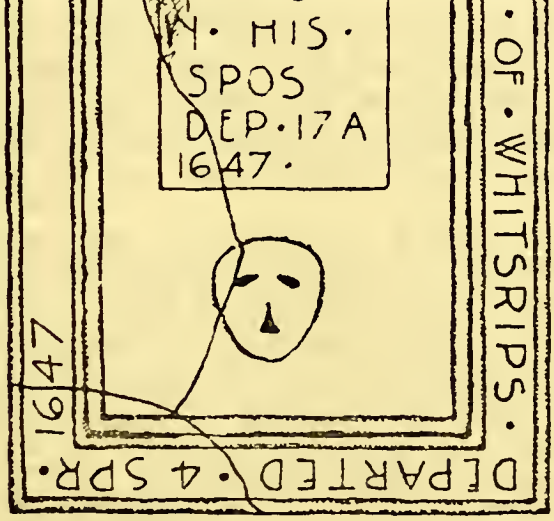
411. LATIN BOOKLET.—The editor thanks "R. T. M." for the inspection of Mr Alexander's booklet on "Latin Roots, Prefixes, and Affixes"—third edition—1860. Are copies of the first and second editions known to exist?

No. 100.—March 16, 1910.

Cassie's Houff.

Situated on the farm of Whitestripes, about four miles from Aberdeen, is the small burial pendicle of James Cassie, laird of Whitestripes, who died in 1647. The burial ground is circular in shape, surrounded by a low stone wall. Within recent years, Mr John Duncan, the present tenant of the farm, planted a few trees to beautify the enclosure.

Having heard of the isolated place of interment, I visited it in January last along with Mr James Duncan and Mr William Stuart Milne, architect, Aberdeen. The latter has obligingly furnished me with an exact drawing of the broken flat memorial stone, of which this is a reproduction—



James Cassy in Quhytstrypis (the surname and property are spelt in various ways) figures in Dr Littlejohn's "Sheriff Court Records." The following extracts are taken from Vol. II.—

1603. February 1. Spuilzie. James Cassy in Quhytstrypis v. Martene Howesone, burgess of Abd. and John Crauford, messenger. A horse was claimed. After various diets the Defenders were allowed a proof of their last defence, and on 16 April they produced a compulsitor of the Commissariat of Abd. at Howesone's instance against Cassy for payment of money, with an execution of comprising of the horse following on it. Witnesses were admitted to proof that at the comprising the horse was offered to Cassy. The end of the case is not reached in the volume (p. 31).

1611. June 4. Loosings of Arrestments. Robert Mutray of Clubisgowill v. James Cassie in Quhytstrypis. Cautioner Mr Wm. Moir, burgess of Abd. Peats, etc., cast in the mosses of Archeidis (p. 170).

1611. October 4. Loosings of Arrestments. Wm. Forbes of Logie v. Thomas Morisone in Auld Gowell. Cautioner James Cassie in Quhystripis (p. 175).

1620. February 5. Loosings of Arrestments. Elspet Moir, daughter of the late Andrew Moir, and wife of Wm. Wat in Monewiay v. Marjory Cassie, widow of the said Andrew Moir, and alleged vitious intromitter with his estate. Cautioner Thomas Jamesone in Scotistoune, whom James Cassie off [? in] Quhytstrypis bound himself to relieve (p. 238).

1620. July 27. Loosings of Arrestments. Thomas Mutray of Clubsgowell v. Marjory Cassie, widow of Andrew Moir in Halkhillok. Cautioner James Cassie of Quhytstrippis (p. 243).

1623. September 20. Loosings of Arrestments. Thomas Mutray of Clubisgowell v. James Black, sometime in Halekhillock then in Scotistoune. Cautioner James Cassie in Quhystripes (p. 273).

1626. June 3. Loosings of Arrestments. Thomas Gordoun of Grandone v. Robert Joiss in Leuchlands. Cautioner James Cassie in Quhystrypes (Ibid., 288).

1630. March 15. Mr Alexr. Gardyne, Procurator Phiscall v. Robert Henrie in Murcur. Cautioner James Cassie in Quhytstripes (p. 315).

1641. June 5. Marjorie Mengzies, widow of Thomas Forbes, Bailzie, burgess of Abd. v. Alexr. Smith in Glasterberrie. Cautioner James Cassie of Quhytstrypes (p. 502).

James Cassie of Quhyitstryipes appears on the roll of the Burgesses of Guild 23rd September, 1625 (New Spalding Club Miscellany, I., 140); and I note that there were eight Cassies fiars' jurors between 1604-1900, one of whom, James Cassie, designed of Quhystrypis, was a fiars' juror in 1630 (II., 47).

The tombstone plainly tells that James Cassie (who was evidently a potent heritor) and his wife Margrat Morison died during 1647. In 1648, June 1, Andrew Cassie was served heir to James Cassie, his father, in "terris et villa de Quhystryppis, pendiculis de Scottistoune infra parochiam Divi mauritii—multuris terrarum de Quhytstryppis et Thackhedderhill, que sunt partes dictarum terrarum de Scottistoun. E. 10m" ("Inquisitionum retornatorum Series: Aberdeen list—1st Series "Scottish Notes and Queries," xi., 157). Andro Cassie of Fytstrypes appears on the list of the heritors who con-

veined for choysing of ane majestrat or more as sould seime neidfull on 22nd August, 1649 (Munro's "Records of Old Aberdeen, II., 35).

Thirteen years later, Andrew Cassie off Quhystryps appears on the Register of Merchant and Trade Burgesses (13th December, 1662). ("Records of Old Aberdeen," I., 234.) His death must have taken place before 1696, for in the valuable Poll Book record of that year mention is made of Jean Henderson, relict of Andrew Cassie of Whitestripes, he being a gentleman; her poll was £1 6s.

The following entries culled from "The Aberdeen Commissariat Record of 1715-1800," may probably refer to later members of the family—

Andrew, writer in Aberdeen, 24 June, 1747;

Andrew, sometime town clerk of Old Aberdeen (see Stewart, Jean, relict of Andrew Cassie, sometime town clerk of Old Aberdeen, 21 June, 1756);

Elizabeth, in Mudhouse, 30 March, 1757.

It may be noted that no member of the Whitestripes family figures in the List of Persons concerned in the Rebellion of 1745-6 or the Aberdeen University Records. Who became the owner of Whitestripes after the death of Andrew Cassie's widow, Jean Henderson, I have not endeavoured to ascertain. The property now belongs to Mr William Roger Paton of Grandholm.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

The Parson of Banchory's Son.

Rev. James Gordon (son of the famous parson of Banchory), who died in January, 1732, is sometimes said to have been curate of Hannby, in Yorkshire. This is a misprint for Flamby. The Register of Deeds (Dalrymple Office) contains the following interesting reference to him, which has not hitherto been printed:—

1716, April 12.—Letter of Attorney, Mr James Gordon, Rector of Flamby, in the North Ryding of York, having business to be looked after in Scotland, authorising his wife, Katherine Gordon [born Collinson] as his true and lawful deputy, to attend to said business: written by Mr William Gordon [afterwards a doctor of medicine in Montrose; died 1738], his lawful son, and sealed with the granter's hand in presence of Marmaduke Middleton, schoolmaster at Flamby and the said William Gordon, March 19, 1714-5.

J. M. B.

Robert Alexander, A.M., Aberdeen Public Schools.

This designation and address I take from the fly-leaf of the third edition of the "Etymological Text Book" compiled by Mr Alexander, and published in 1860. As near as I can remember, I was a scholar in the Little Belmont Street Schools from about 1861 or 1862 till 1866, when the school was presided over by Mr Alexander. At that time there was a lady teacher, and then for an intermediate a Mr Middleton, in both of whose classes I was before being considered good enough for the premier honour of being in Mr Alexander's own class.

Of Mr Alexander and his tuition—and his tawse!—I have, after forty years, a vivid recollection. Schoolboy-like, as is no doubt the custom at the present day, we had a sobriquet or nickname for our schoolmasters (though really it was only a legacy to us), Mr Alexander's being that of "Craw"; and we, his pupils, were known as "The Craws." This cognomen was no doubt inspired by the old-fashioned dress of black in which our mentor was invariably attired. As to his qualifications as a teacher, I think—in comparison with the present boasted, and, I may say, over-rated system of education—he was a most marvellous man. He used to have before him three separate classes, one of girls and two of boys, and his system was so comprehensive that whilst he employed one lot in writing and another in arithmetic, he was teaching the "lassies" English—his all-seeing eye being over all. In fact, he was all eyes. If he detected one boy inattentive or engrossed in gossiping to his neighbour, Mr Alexander was quietly rolling up the tawse into a circular form, and the next moment it was resting peacefully on the culprit's book or lap, with a suddenness that made us jump. He was a dead shot, and never missed fire. The culprit had to return the tawse by hand, and often got some of it "on hand" before returning to his place in the class. Though a strict disciplinarian, Mr Alexander was no tyrant, and could unbend to his pupils when it was advisable. As a specimen of his humour, I may mention that upon one occasion I got the tawse—and it was a stinger!—for something another boy had done. I protested so strongly that Mr Alexander was ultimately induced to make further investigation, when he found that I was entirely innocent. The remark "Weel, George, it'll jist mak' up for ane ye should have had and didna get," was poor consolation in the circumstances!

Mr Alexander had no lithographed "copy heads," but himself wrote those for his pupils in a fine, bold, round hand. When a pupil had finished his copy, he had to go to the "academical rostrum" to display his work and get another copy, when he was blamed or praised as the work justified. Many a time when Mr Alexander had in his own beautiful handwriting "set a copy," he would dismiss us with the cheery remark, "Now, jist dee't like that an' I'll gie ye a penny." No pupil was ever known to get the promised penny, the task being too gigantic. In matters religious Mr Alexander was no bigot, as was shown by his consideration for those of his pupils whose parents belonged to the Church of England, in which case he asked the parents if they wished the Catechism of that Church taught to their children individually, and he would do so.

Many, although Church of England people, thought the Shorter Catechism would do no harm, so to save trouble, we got "past Redemption and owre the ither leaf," according to the tenets of the Presbyterian Church.

There was no unnecessary expense on school books in Mr Alexander's school. For grammar he used "Lennie's Grammar," and, having struggled through it, and got to the last page, Mr Alexander just started us at the beginning again, on the plea that "we couldna dae ony better, and there were some bitties we micht hae forgot." His plan of religious instruction was best embodied in his texts and references, one or two of which he dictated to us, and which we had to write out every Monday morning. Our first introduction to the beauties of Milton's "Paradise Lost" and a knowledge of the varied elements of our wonderful world, as expressed in Dick's "Christian Philosopher," were given so plainly and expressed so simply by Mr Alexander that we could not but understand at the time—alas! 40 years ago. When any of Mr Alexander's pupils went to the Grammar School they were always at the top of their classes there, or not far off.

Apart from his scholastic calling, Mr Alexander was a keen and successful horticulturist, and many a time he used to "twit" us boys with laziness, telling us he had been up at four o'clock on a cold winter morning to see that his hothouse fire had not gone out, and his cherished plants been spoiled. One of the old school, the subject of this appreciative sketch could not be complete without that inseparable companion of his—his snuff-box. This was not a shabby little "snuff mull," but a massive silver box, which had been presented by some of his admiring friends. Many a time and oft have I been motioned to by Mr Alexander from my seat in the school to get a fresh supply for him; and, when giving me the money, he used to say—"Ye ken whaur to gang tae, George, an' Mr Walker kens the kin' I like." (Mr Walker's shop was at the top of Market Street then, where the National Bank now is.)

I trust these few notes will be interesting to some of the erstwhile pupils of Robert Alexander, A.M.—a man whose personality was in his day greatly held in esteem. In memory of having been associated with part of his life I, as one of his old pupils, submit this most incomplete appreciation of him as a good schoolmaster, a kind friend to the boys he taught and a man of sterling character.

GEORGE NICOL.

8 Princess Street,
Durham.

[Another correspondent obligingly communicates that Mr Alexander was a native of Huntly; that he attended King's College 1831-35, receiving the degree of M.A from that University in 1850; that he was a teacher in the West End Academy, Aberdeen, when William Pirie Smith (afterwards Free Church minister of Kelg-Tough, and father of Professor William Robertson Smith) was head of that school; and that among others of Mr Alexander's assistants were Charles Michie and William Cormack, the latter of whom became minister in the Dutch Reformed Church, Cape Colony. The same correspondent adds that Mr Alexander undoubtedly got his nick-name from his raven-black hair and whiskers, and his swarthy complexion.—ED.]

Rev. James Lyon, D.D., Glamis.

A propos of the notes, in last issue, on Rev. William Lyon, minister of Union Chapel, Aberdeen, the following particulars respecting his father, Rev. James Lyon, D.D., parish minister of Glamis, may prove of interest:—

Rev. Dr James Lyon was the descendant of a race of parsons, his great-grandfather having been minister of Tannadice, his grandfather of Airlie, and his own father, Rev. George Lyon, of Longforgan. His mother was Agnes, daughter of John Ramsay L'Amy, of Dunkenny, and sister of James L'Amy, long Sheriff-Depute of Forfarshire, who succeeded to Dunkenny.

Rev. Dr James Lyon, author of accounts of the parish of Glamis (Old Statistical Account of Scotland, Vol. III., and New Statistical Account, Vol. XI.), had the following issue—

1. George (1789-1859), of Snowdoun House, Stirling; married and issue.
2. James (1790-1815).
3. William (1798-1828), minister of Union Chapel, Aberdeen. He was survived by a widow (Scott's "Fasti").
4. Stewart (1804-1830).
5. Agnes Hamilton (1787-1816), who married, on 18th August, 1812, Rev. William Rogers, minister of Rescobie.
6. Margaret (1792-1808).
7. Ann Dempster (1795-1815).
8. Janet Moncrieff (1796-1834).
9. Barbara Catherine (1800-1823).
10. Jane Playfair 1802-1803).

The foregoing particulars of Dr Lyon's family are taken from the privately printed work entitled "Lyons of Cossins and Wester Ogil: Cadets of Glamis," by Mr Andrew Ross, Marchmont Herald (Edinburgh: George Waterston and Sons, 1901). (See also Jervise's "Epitaphs," I., 181.)

Mrs Dr Lyon was a poetess, and some of her verses will be found in Rogers's "Modern Scottish Minstrel," II., 84; among others, her additional words to Neil Gow's "Farewell to Whisky"—

You've surely heard of famous Neil,
The man who played the fiddle weel:
He was a heartsome, merry chiel,
And weel he lo'ed the whisky, O!

For ever since he wore the tartan hose,
He dearly liket Athole brose;
And grieved he was, you may suppose,
To bid farewell to whisky, O!

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

Klopstock's Grave.

When in Hamburg some years ago, I availed myself of the electric tram service to visit Altona. My chief reason for going was obviously sentimental—because Campbell, when resident there in 1800 wrote his fine lyric "The Exile of Erin." The poet got acquainted with an Irish rebel, Anthony M'Cann, who had been involved in the troubles of 1798, and was therefore debarred from returning to his native country. M'Cann, with other Irishmen, was in the habit of climbing a rising ground in the township which commanded a grand prospect of the Valley of the Elbe, for in that westerly direction his native isle was situated. I got out at Rainville Terrasse, and felt certain that that was the spot which M'Cann frequented, as it discloses a noble view of the river, with shipping, windmills, woods, and villages. It has been painted and photographed often.

In returning to Hamburg I walked along the Anlage or recreation ground, a common adjunct to all German towns, with rows of trees on each side and seats and statuary at various points. As I went along I observed a church with tombstones on the left-hand side of the road, and decided to inspect it. I crossed over, and entering a side street which led to the church descended a flight of steps into the cemetery. The most of the stones were of the open, writing-desk order, common in all German cemeteries, the head about 2ft. high and the bottom level, with the grass, which enables the rain to run off easily.

One striking monument near the church door, with a pilgrim holding a cross sculptured thereon, arrested my attention, and on reading the inscription I was startled to find that it was to the sacred poet Friedrich Gottlieb Klopstock, who died in 1803, aged 79. Although I had read translations of some of his poems, I knew next to nothing of his personal history, and certainly never anticipated seeing his grave, for I really did not know then where he had died. "Clubstick" is the English equivalent for his name, and I have seen sneering allusions to it, as an impossibility to get good verse from one unfortunately saddled with this name. Such censors are evidently hard-up for pleasantry, and certainly deserve a taste of that same cudgel to teach them good manners. Klopstock's "Messiah" is a classic in German literature, and several of his detached poems have been ably translated by that ill-fated Irish genius, James Clarence Mangan. M'Cann, the Irish exile, is also buried there.

I was well pleased that my curiosity had been so amply rewarded and on returning again to the Anlage, I saw that the side street was named "Klopstock Strasse" in honour of the deceased poet. Very likely he lived there, and occasionally officiated in the church, for he was a clergyman. I feel persuaded that Klopstock and Campbell met and held converse together, and a pleasing thought it was to me to imagine the aged German bard and the youthful author of "The Pleasures of Hope" seated in the Anlage. Campbell has a translation from Klopstock amongst his miscellaneous poems.

THOS. L. WORK.

Melbourne, Australia.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1841.

7th January. At Glasgow, Emily Chalmers, spouse of James Ferguson, Esq. of Kinmundy.

17th January. At his house, Albyn Place, Adam Cumine, Esq. of Rattray, in his 74th year.

21st January. At Ellon, in his 57th year, George Mitchell, Surgeon.

11th February. Here, Mrs Margaret Cumine, relict of Alexander Russell of Aden and Moncoffer, aged 73.

7th February. At Gloucester Place, London, Charles Michell, Esq. of Forcett Hall, Yorkshire, in his 80th year, grandfather of John Michell, Esq. of Glassel.

2nd February. At Manse of Kinellar, Rev. David Smith, Minister of Kinellar, in his 85th year.

25th January. Mr Peter Ferguson, Schoolmaster, Cove.

14th February. At Druminnor, Robert Leith [? Robert Grant] Esq. of Druminnor, in his 83th year.

19th February. At 150 King Street, James Davidson, M.D., Professor of Civil and Natural History, Marischal College.

21st February. Here, James Smith, late Superintendent of the Aberdeenshire Canal, aged 74.

26th February. Here, William Corbet, Esq. of Bieldside [aged 71.]

21st March. Here, Mrs Mary Grant, relict of Rev. Andrew Marshall, Minister of Tullynessle, aged 78.

3rd April. At her house in Portobello, Helen Forbes, relict of Charles Fraser, Esq. of Williamston, in her 86th year.

14th April. At Mavisbank, Mrs Dalrymple Horn Elphinstone [Margaret, only child and heiress of James Davidson of Midmar Castle], widow of James Dalrymple Horn Elphinstone of Horn and Logie-Elphinstone.

8th April. At Footdee, William Smith, Surgeon.

26th April. At Oldmeldrum, William Forbes, Surgeon, in his 49th year.

20th April. At Cairness, Major-General Thomas Gordon of Buthlaw, aged 52.

14th May. At Finzean, Archibald Farquharson, Esq. of Finzean, aged 47.

25th May. At Manse of Echt, Thomas Ingram, Student of Philosophy, 5th son of Rev. William Ingram, aged 17.

5th September. At Aberdeen, Alexander Argo, M.A., Surgeon, aged 52.

11th September. At Banff, Janet Simpson, relict of William Brown, Manufacturer there, aged 101.

2nd September. At Arbuthnott House, the Hon. Jean Arbuthnott.

19th September. At Glack, Roderick Mackenzie, Esq. of Glack, in his 81st year.

4th October. At Aberdeen, in his 81st year, James Milne, Esq., late Provost of Aberdeen.

14th October. Mr Charles Hacket, late Merchant in Aberdeen, in his 48th year.

23rd October. At Manse of Tyrie, Rev. George Alexander Simpson, Minister of Tyrie, aged 54.

31st October. At Kininvie, Archibald Young Leslie, Esq. of Kininvie, in his 74th year.

2nd November. At his house, 99 Spital, aged 94, Robert Wishart, Tailor, late Convener of the Incorporated Trades of Old Aberdeen.

25th October. At Greenvale, near Dumbarton, Clementina, wife of Phineas Daniel, W.S., youngest daughter of the late William Shand, Esq. of Craigellie.

30th November. At Kininvie, Mrs Archibald Young Leslie, aged 63.

6th December. At Linton, Mrs Isabella Mary Garioch, widow of Rev. Robert Shepherd, Minister of Daviot, aged 71.

13th December. At Percylew, Clatt, Mr George Watt, farmer, aged 62.

20th December. At Manse of Glass, Rev. John Cruickshank, Minister of that Parish, in his 76th year of age and 43rd of ministry.

26th December. At Belnabodach, Strathdon, Mr George Farquharson.

Queries.

439. "The Twa Corbies."—Sixty years ago, there was popular on Deeside a rhyme or ballad whereof the first verse ran:—

As I gaed down by yon house-end,
Twa corbies there were sitting their lane;
The tane unto the tother did say,
"Oh where shall we gae dine to-day?"

Can any reader oblige with the remainder of the piece, which now seems to be very rare?

L.

[That "The Twa Corbies" belongs to Deeside or the north-eastern district, or has a local bearing, may very well be doubted. The ballad of the name appears in Scott's "Border Minstrelsy"; a different version—evidently a more modern composition—appears in Motherwell's collection; and there is an English version printed by Ritson, entitled "The Three Ravens." The lines given by "L." virtually correspond with the first verse of Scott's version—

As I was walking all alane
I heard twa corbies making a mane;
The tane unto the ither did say,
"Where sall we gang and dine to-day?"

They feast on "a new-slain knight," and the ballad ends with a striking verse, which is apt to haunt the memory—

Mony a ane for him makes mane,
But nane sall ken where he is gane;
O'er his white banes, when they are bare,
The wind sall blaw for evermair.

The first verse of Motherwell's version is as follows—

There were two corbies sat on a tree,
Large and black as black might be;
And one until the other 'gan say—
"Where shall we gang and dine to-day?
Shall we dine by the wild saut sea?
Shall we dine 'neath the greenwood tree?"

(See "The Ballad Minstrelsy of Scotland": Alexander Gardner, 1893: and "Auld Scots Ballants," edited by Robert Ford; Alexander Gardner, 1889.)—Ed.]

440. Findochty Castle.—What is known concerning this old castle?

R. J. P.

441. Baird and Ellis, Bell-founders, Aberdeen.—What is known concerning this firm? I am informed that they cast the church bell of Ellon in 1828.

G. Smith.

442. The Ledingham Family.—Could any reader direct me to information on the origin and original settlement of the family name Ledingham? Is it originally a "place" name?

Quizxuncle

Answers.

394. Francis Peacock, Dancing Master. Further to the answer by "A." in No. 90, January 5, it may be stated that the full title of the work on Dancing published by Peacock in 1805 is "Sketches Relative to the History and Theory, but more especially to the Practice of Dancing: as A necessary Accomplishment to the Youth of Both Sexes; together with Remarks on the Defects and Bad Habits they are liable to in Early Life: And the Best

TOMBSTONES OF BURNS'S ANCESTORS IN GLENBERVIE CHURCHYARD.

(By Kind permission from a photograph by Mr. Henry J. Rennie, Aberdeen).

SUPPLEMENT TO
"SCOTTISH NOTES AND QUERIES"
JUNE, 1934

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LIMITED : ABERDEEN

Means of Correcting or Preventing them. Intended as Hints to the Young Teachers of the Art of Dancing. By Francis Peacock, Aberdeen." At the time of publication Mr Peacock was in his 82nd year, and he had many admirers and warm friends among the nobility and gentry. One of the most staunch of these friends was Provost Alexander Brebner of Learney. The Guildry of Aberdeen purchased 20 copies of the "Dancing" volume for which they paid £5, and as showing its far-famed and lasting merits it may be stated that as recently as January, 1874, the president of the London Gaelic Society's ball wrote to Aberdeen asking a copy of it to be forwarded to him in order "that the 'Gaels' should trip the light fantastic toe in true 'Peacockian' fashion."

I am indebted to Mr Milne, Balgranach, Milltimber, for the foregoing facts.

H.

414. Blin' Willie Hogg.—The "Aberdeen Journal" of 20th March, 1839, records—Died about a month ago, at Auchnabo, Slains, "Blind Willie Hogg," the Fiddler, long well known in this city as a street player.

H. A.

427. "Archie's Box, or the Station-master's Warning."—Particulars respecting this poem and its author, George Davidson, will be found in Walker's "Bards of Bon-Accord," p. 661. On inquiry, Mr Walker informs me that the poem was issued only as a broadsheet, and that he knows of no copy other than that in his own collection of Local Broadsheets, although some other collector may have a copy.

J. H.

433. Admiral Norwich Duff.—For interesting notes on the family and career of Admiral Norwich Duff, "G. Y." is recommended to consult Temple's "The Thanage of Fermartyn," pp. 131-32.

T.

No. 101—March 23, 1910.

The Conns of Auchry.

The beautiful estate of Auchry, near Turriff, now belongs to a branch of the family of Lumsden, who bought it early in last century from the Cumines, but, as most genealogists know, it anciently belonged to a Roman Catholic family bearing the very unusual name of "Con." No such name occurs elsewhere among the baronial families of Scotland, and it is obviously not, like other uncommon Scottish patronymics, the name of a place.

The clue to the mystery is explained by a birth brieve preserved in Aberdeen, which states that the first "Con," who came to Aberdeenshire about the beginning of the fifteenth century, was a son of Donald the Lord of the Isles. His mother was Jane Cheyne, daughter of the Baron of Straloch, and the son, becoming involved in some dispute in his father's kingdom, took refuge with his mother's people in Aberdeenshire. Naturally, to be like his neighbours, he had to assume some surname, and as this was long before the days when the clans went by their present Anglified names, he adopted the traditional name of his clan—which we find in Ossian—"Siol Cuin," or "Con."

This Highlander gave birth to a race who served the Gordons and the Hays in their tribal wars for the next 200 years. We have Alexander Cone of Auchry in 1522, who succeeded to some relative, Robert Cone in Little Auchry, in 1541. His eldest son William married Barbara Leslie, daughter of Sir John Leslie 8th of Balquhain, and was succeeded by Patrick, who married Mary Cheyne of Esslemont.

Patrick distinguished himself greatly under Huntly, when the clans were routed at Glenlivet in 1594. He added to the family estates Meikle Artrochie, and became Commissioner to the Earl of Erroll. Soon after Patrick's death in 1642, the Conns were driven into exile on account of their religion, and disappear from view, the only remaining scion of a once noble family being a tenant in Knockiemill, who was also banished soon afterwards. George Conn, the eldest son, was created a Cardinal, and wrote several theological works. About 1690, the Conns finally disappear from our ken in a pathetic note from France to the Earl of Erroll, in which an old poverty-stricken man, signing himself "Cone," places his own and his sons' swords at the Earl's disposal—forgetting that the old order had passed away, and that guineas had become more potent than swords.

Kinneff in the 17th Century.

Rev. William Cruickshank, minister of Kinneff, recently made a transcript of the oldest volume of the Kirk-Session Records of Kinneff, covering the period from 1641 to 1663, from which he delivered an interesting lecture to his parishioners. From Mr Cruickshank's notes we cull the following—

At least three scribes were at work on the record in question. One is supposed to have been Rev. James Grainger, whose name is well known in connection with the saving of the Scottish Regalia. He wrote a neat and distinct, although small, hand, which is not difficult to make out.

For the most part, the entries refer to cases of church discipline, varying from the gravest to the most trivial.

The first entries are of the time of Rev. James Strachan, a minister of Episcopalian leanings, who was put out of the charge when the Presbyterians gained the ascendancy during the reign of Charles I. The Episcopalians came in again at the close of the period dealt with by this record, the first Honyman, whose epitaph is on the walls of Kinneff Church, being of this persuasion. Mr Strachan, although extruded, did not go far away, neither was he forgotten by his people, for collections appear as having been taken on his behalf on several occasions.

The first parochial names appearing are those of Hill, Stewart, Moneur, and Leper. Two of these persons were sentenced to pay 13s 4d for a breach of the Sabbath day.

One of the next cases is of slander, in which a woman brought a charge against a man, who undertook to clear himself, delay being allowed him that he might produce his witnesses.

About the same date Douglas of Barras became cautioner for the due payment of an offender's penalty.

In 1643, £1 of the penalty money was given to the minister to defray his charges at the General Assembly.

An exceptional entry is the case of a lady who, having entered on her courses of repentance, "befor the day that they war ended pleaded God to cal hir be deathe."

Blaspheming of God's name is a fault now dealt with for the first time.

A month or two later a man is charged "for not keiping of the kirk." His penalty was 6s 8d (Scots).

A fault of a peculiar order is recorded in October, viz., the "reseating" "of ane stray without ane testimonialle." Such cases crop up again, and the parish has suffered through the rule being relaxed.

On 17th December, 1643, "Sir Jhone Douglas of Barras payed fyve marks 8p, for his chyld's burryell within ye kerk." No burials were allowed in the church after 1830.

On 11th July, "Alex. Strachan of Fallsyde was chosen ruling elder to keip presbitrie and the nixt provinciall assemblie."

On 28th of same month, a man guilty of "prophaning" the Sabbath was ordained to pay 13s 4d, and to stand in the "stoks"; and a woman was ordered to pay the same penalty, and to stand in "ye jogs."

The entry of 12th August, 1644, is curious—". . . the heall session taking to hei(d) the pittifule estat of Jhone Fidlar, ane of their paroche, quh became so onabill that he could mak no travill for to seik his leving nather on horsse nor fitt, it was ordained that he sould remaine in ane pleace, and have ane pook of mealle of ye paroche evrie week for his interinement, evrye plouche giv[ing] him halff pock about, and Thomas Follie sould [give]him the first weik ane pook, Jhone Wilson [tombstone still to be seen in churchyard] and Jhone Lepar ane pook the nixt weik. . ."

Here there appeurs to be the entry of a culprit having to appear in sackcloth. A little later it is shown that the minister had to give his pook, with George Arbuthnot, and also a Jhone Graye (which is the name associated with Kinneff Castle). Others giving meal are James Stevine, David Stevin, Andro Durward, Jhone Stewart, Andro Lowrie, David Lepar, Jhone Renkine, and Rot. Lepar. Other important names are those of Jhone, Robert, and Thomas Erskine, and Sir Jhone Douglas. Among place names mentioned in the same connection are letill baris, haiff lies, and Larggie, also Fidd(es).

It was seldom one was charged, being guiltless, but in December one "accused of brak of ye Sabbath is ordained to be frie of that slander."

On 29th December, £4 4s 8d was given to the minister to "by glasin windos for the kirk."

1645, 20th April. Archibald Carmay, in Newhevan [a fishing village in the parish now extinct], was ordained to remove "Patterak Loue, ane stranger, out of his serves under ye paine of ten punds conforme to ye ack of ye Assemlie." [Loue afterwards appeared "as an offender in not keiping ye Sabboth dayc."]

1st June. C—— B—— was ordained to mak hir repentance ane day on ye stul for hir selanderous convarsatione withe some troupars. [Montrose was in the neighbourhood about this time.]

A bursary payment frequently occurs. In October £3 was paid to Mr Jhon Raitt, the bursar. [Perhaps Raitt was a son of the minister of Catterline.]

It was customary to enter a married woman by her Christian name, which sometimes makes identification difficult. In one case a husband appears for his wife (maiden name recorded) and his daughter, and clears them of the imputation layd to (them) "that they did strikke him."

Early in 1646 there is the record of a breach of promise case. The man gave up his name for proclamation with a certain lady. Another lady intervened, asserting a prior claim. This being denied, the case was taken into consideration by the session, with the result that the minister was recommended to take the advice of the Presbytery. The alternative finally submitted to the man was to marry the first lady, and give up number two, or to give a composition to number one. The latter course was adopted.

On 22nd March, 1646, sums of 80s, 58s, and 22s were given to buy sand-glasses for the kirk.

On 3rd May, Gilbert Forbes, James Forbes, Jhon Wilsone, and Jhon Leper, for having their ploughs yocked the day of the fast, were ordained to be charged against the nixt day. The four confessed that their "ploughs were in the yock yt day," and being inquired whether they themselves were at their ploughs, denyed, saying their servants only were there. Hereupon the session ordained the servants to be charged to make their repentance, and the masters to pay their penalties—halfe ane mark for everie man.

A man accused of cursing and swearing appeared, and would have denied, but his guilt was proved by witnesses. He had to make his repentance before the pulpit, and to "pay his penaltie conforme to ye act of Parliamente."

Rev. James Gammack, LL.D.

In newly-published works unexpected points, which appeal personally to readers, frequently crop up. I have just had an experience of this character in perusing the excellent work "Glenbervie: The Fatherland of Burns" by Mr George Henderson Kinnear, F.E.I.S., schoolmaster of Glenbervie.

Mr Kinnear, in dealing with the history of St John's Episcopal Church at Drumlithie, makes various references to Mr Gammack. In the first place, the fact is overlooked that Mr Gammack had the degree of LL.D. conferred by the University of Aberdeen; secondly, he did not leave Drumlithie till 1885; and, thirdly, he did not proceed immediately to America, as stated. On leaving Drumlithie he went to Aberdeen, where he conducted till March, 1889, a boarding-house for students and boys attending school whose houses were at a distance. Being one of the "boys," I can write with confidence on this subject, and I recall with pleasure the "jollification" we had to signalise the honour conferred by the University on our worthy superior. In the following paragraph I give the outstanding features in Dr Gammack's history:—

James Gammack, son of Alexander Gammack, flesher; born Turriff 23rd April, 1837; graduated M.A., Marischal College, 1857; Incumbent Episcopal Church Tillymorgan, Pitlochry, Drumlithie; LL.D., Aberdeen Univer-

sity, 1887; Rector of St James's, West Hartford, Connecticut, U.S.A.; author of various works on ecclesiastical and historical subjects.

Sydney C. Cooper.

Craigiehuckler House, Aberdeen.

[Mr Harry Hems, writing in the "Exeter Flying Post" of 26th February, says that Rev. Dr Gammack "is now universally known in the land of his adoption as a savant of great learning and wide research." His communications to this series are welcomed.—Ed.]

Robert Gordon's College.

In view of probable early changes taking place in the constitution, etc., of Robert Gordon's College, an official report on the property and funds belonging to the College has been prepared and circulated among those interested. The following are the most outstanding details:—

	Acreage.	Gross Rental.	Estimated Value.
Estate of Towie-Barclay	3542	£3175	£73.036
Estate of Dumbreck and Orchardtown	2000	2194	50.476
Lands of Haremoss	82	122	2.702
Estates of Barrack and Crichie	1926	1763	38.802
Feu-duties	—	122	2.993
Standing wood	—	—	3,000
	7558	£7378	£171.011

Shillings and pence are excluded from the above, as also are fractions of acres. The two first-mentioned estates are valued at 23 years' purchase prices of the rental, the second two at 22 years' purchase, and the feu-duties at 24½ years' purchase.

The Aberdeen Educational Trust.

In a report of the affairs of this Trust as at 31st December, 1909, the following details are furnished:—

	Acreage.	Gross Rental.	Capitalised Value.
Muchalls Estate	2234	£3224	£70.761
Easter Muchalls Estate	250	228	7,147
Elrick and Annochie ...	2100	1955	45.000
Feu-duties	—	698	17.206
Chalmers's Bequest	—	41	1.000
Cash at credit	—	—	1.119
	4584	£6147	£142.234

Fractions are excluded. Muchalls is valued at 22 years' purchase, Easter Muchalls at 26 years' purchase, Elrick and Annochie at 23 years, and the feu-duties and Chalmers's Bequest at 24½ years' purchase.

Aberdeen Militia Barracks.

The War Office having intimated a desire to terminate its lease of the Militia Barracks in King Street, the County Clerk has prepared for the information of members of the Aberdeen County Council a statement of facts relative to the structure. It is thus shown that the building was erected in 1861-63 under the provisions of the Militia Act, 1854, and that its cost up to May last, including erection, additions, repairs, interest, feu-duty, taxes, etc., amounted to £29,063 2s 4d. The War Office had leased the premises in 1833 for a period of 99 years at a rental of £455, with a break at any Martinmas term on 12 months notice being given. A new lessee, or purchaser, is being looked out for.

Tactics in Birds.

Cowper, in one of his pretty rustic tales in verse begins—

> I shall not ask Jean Jacques Rousseau
> If birds confabulate or no;
> 'Tis clear that they were always able
> To hold discourse, at least in fable.

That some birds do communicate with each other, and appoint scouts or sentinels to give warning to the flock, is apparent to the merest beginner in natural history. I had not been long in Australia when one morning, rambling in the country fully 150 miles inland from the sea coast, I observed a solitary snow-white cockatoo on the dead limb of an old gum tree steadfastly staring at me. I shook my walking-stick at him, whereupon he elevated his saffron crest, and, screeching discordantly, flew away. He was answered by hundreds of other cockatoos some distance off; they rose in the air to a great height, circling about and uttering their raucous cries of alarm, and eventually all disappeared from view. I mentioned this to an old bushman I met on the road, who smiled at me as a "new chum," and then complacently told me that the first cockatoo I saw was a sentry on guard, who had to give warning of danger, and that my stick had suggested a gun to it. Quoth the bushman—"Once a bird gets to know the natural craft and wickedness of men, it will not be swindled a second time." He was right.

One of the drollest and most pertinacious of Australian birds is what is called the magpie. It is easily domesticated, becomes a great pet, whistles, and takes great liberties with cats and dogs. It is most impertinent and ultra-democratic in its bearing towards all and sundry. Every stranger coming to Australia observes the magpie and its antics. That such birds are capable of plotting together and obtaining food by stratagem is the reason of my present note.

Visiting an old friend recently, I noticed a fine young dog just emerging from puppyhood, and my friend, who is a dog fancier, remarked

—"He had a great disappointment this morning." I inquired how that happened, and was told that he took a small mutton-chop bone with some meat upon it as a morning present to the dog. The creature, quite delighted, laid the bone down upon a grass plot, and began anatomising it. This proceeding had been descried and evidently commented upon by two magpies who had been vocalising all the morning in an adjacent pepper tree, and consequently were sharp-set for breakfast. Instantly the birds concocted a plot, and both flopped down at once, one in front of the puppy the other behind it. While the front magpie disconcerted the dog with its adroit dodging, the magpie at the rear vigorously pecked the dog's tail, so much so that he turned in wrath upon his feathered antagonist, whereupon the first bird seized the bone, and both flew up into a fork of the pepper tree, where they finished the chop with great glee and mutual satisfaction. My friend said that the frantic vexation of the dog in disconsolate yelps and the laughter and mimicry of the birds was almost human—even Satanic in intensity—and he never would forget it. It was the finest bit of successful bird strategy and self-glorification he had ever witnessed.

ALBA.

William Hay Leith Tester, Poet.

Mr J. F. Kellas Johnstone is desirous of having further particulars of persons who came under the scope of his bibliography, and, remembering this, I transcribed the following from a headstone in Elgin Cathedral burial ground:—

Her end / was peace. Erected / by Rebecca and Jane Tester / to the Memory of / their beloved mother, / Ann Tester, / who died 13th May, 1862, / also of their beloved sister / Isabella Tester, / Who died 14th March, 1876, / aged 17 years. / Also four who died in infancy. / Also their father, / William Hay Leith Tester, / "La Teste," / Who died 8th March, 1892, / aged 63 years. / His end was peace.

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

Northern Journalists.

A headstone in Elgin Cemetery is inscribed:—In memory / of / James Gordon Phillips, / Journalist, / author and geologist, / who died at Dundonnell, Elgin, / on 29th May, 1900, / aged 48 years. /

Another headstone in the same cemetery bears:—To / the memory of / John Hill Grassie, / editor and joint proprietor / of / the "Elgin Courant and Courier, / who died 18th May, 1907, / aged 60 years, / and of his son / John, / who died 9th December, 1882, / aged 3½ years.

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

The Origin and Distribution of Names.

Increasing interest is being taken in the origin and distribution of personal names. According to Mr William Anderson's "Genealogy and Surnames" (Edinburgh, 1865), the order of frequency for the whole of Scotland, for the 35 principal names, is as follows:—

Smith, Macdonald, Brown, Robertson, Thomson, Stewart, Campbell, Wilson, Anderson, Mackay, Mackenzie, Scott, Johnston, Miller, Reid, Ross, Paterson, Fraser, Murray, Maclean, Cameron, Clark, Young, Henderson, Macleod, Taylor, Mitchell, Watson, Ferguson, Walker, Morrison, Davidson, Gray, Duncan, Hamilton.

Old Laws and New.

Of all classes of men, there is probably no class that shows greater skill in their work than law-makers. Our James I. was a great law-maker, and his laws are very droll, but not more so than the laws made in modern times. In his 1st Parliament, 1424, it is statute "And the King forbidds that na man play at futeball, under the paine of fiftie schillings."

In the Bill now introduced into Parliament by the Commissioners of Police, it is enacted that no person shall fly a kite under the penalty of forty shillings.

In the 13th Parliament of James I., 1436, it is ordered that "Na man in burgh be found in tavernes of wine, ail, or beer, after the strike of nine hours, and the bell that sall be ringin' in the said burgh; the quhilkes founden, the Alderman and Baillies sall put them in the King's Prison. The quhilk, gif they do not, they sall pay for ilk time that they be founden culpabill before the Chamberlane fiftie shillings."

By a bill presently in Parliament, it is ordered that every man found drunk shall be apprehended and carried before the magistrate, who may fine him forty shillings, and, failing payment, send him to prison for ten days.

Upon the whole, we are disposed to think the old laws better than the new. It does not appear to us to be a bit more immoral to fly a kite than to play at football. And we think that it is much better to send all people found in taverns after nine o'clock to prison, than to let them carouse till eleven, and then, when turned out in a state of intoxication, to fine them forty shillings; and, in case the Baillies happen to be lax in the administration of justice, there can be no doubt of the propriety of fining them when "they be founden culpabill."—"Aberdeen Journal," March 26, 1862.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1842.

10th January. Aged 91, Mr James Grant, formerly postmaster of Huntly.

12th January. At Rothie House, George Leslie, Esq. of Rothie, in his 77th year.

23rd January. Here, Elizabeth Blaikie, wife of Rev. Alexander D. Davidson, of West Parish.

1st February. At Corbanchory, Leochel-Cushnie, Jonathan Thomson, farmer, at the advanced age of 95. He was born and lived all his days on the same farm, and was named after the laird, the well-known Jonathan Forbes of Brux, about whose proceedings in the '45, and his concealment in the hill of Caillievar, he possessed not a few anecdotes.

6th February. At Stonehaven, Mrs Margaret Mercer, relict of Rev. Benjamin Mercer, Kildrummy, and daughter of the late James Stewart of Carnaveron, in her 92nd year.

14th February. At Old Aberdeen, aged 80, Christian Leslie, relict of Alexander Burnett of Kemnay. . . .

13th March. At 74 Hutcheon Street, Rev. Robert Forbes, for thirty-seven years one of the masters of the Grammar School, aged 80.

15th March. At Manse of Coull, Sophia Jane Mackenzie, wife of Rev. William Campbell, in her 34th year.

19th March. At Tillyfour, Ann Black, widow of Charles M'Combie, Esq. of Tillyfour, aged 58.

18th March. At Albyn Place, Miss Cumine of Pitullie.

30th March. Here, Margaret Scott, in her 38th year, spouse of Deacon James Sangster.

27th March. At Kintore, Robert Cooper, surgeon, in his 50th year.

1st April. At Manse of Auchindoir, Rev. James Reid, in his 94th year.

6th April. At Huntly, Rev. James Walker, Episcopal clergyman, in his 81st year.

7th April. At Auchnagorth, Byth, Peter Robertson, well-known in this and the neighbouring county as Feel Peter. He was an honest, trusty, kind creature; and, had it not been for a defectiveness of speech, would have been a complete personification of Sir Walter Scott's Davie Gellatly. Peter was, we believe, a native of Old Pitsligo.

10th April. Here, Mr James Lawrence, manufacturer, aged 66.

10th April. At 132 High Street, Old Aberdeen, in her 82nd year, Janet Nairn, relict of Adam Stables, late convener of the Incorporated Trades.

23rd April. At 42 Bon-Accord Street, Mrs Gordon, relict of Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon, in her 83rd year.

23rd May. At Chapel of Garioch, Rev. William Smith, schoolmaster there, aged 38.

14th June. Captain George Primerose, Old Aberdeen, in his 61st year.

11th July. At Manse of Cairney, aged 23, George, eldest son of Rev. William Cowie.

13th July. At 34 York Place, Edinburgh, John Mansfield, Esq. of Midmar.

15th July. At 22 Heriot Row, Edinburgh, John Gordon, Esq. of Avochie, W.S., aged 71.

29th July. Here, Mr James Troup, dancing master, aged 46.

12th August. At Peterhead, William Dalrymple, surgeon.

31st August. At Indego, aged 34, Ann Farquharson, wife of Andrew Robertson, Esq.

2nd September. At her house, 3 Skene Place, in her 78th year, Anne Elizabeth, widow of Very Rev. Dr William Lawrence Brown, Principal of Marischal College, Professor of Divinity there, and Dean of the Chapel Royal.

9th September. At 66 Schoolhill, Miss Agnes More, aged 80.

3rd October. At Montrose, Miss Elizabeth Dingwall, daughter of the late John Dingwall, Esq. of Rainnieston, aged 70.

2nd November. At Monellie, Rev. William Rainy, aged 77, for fifty-four years schoolmaster of Drumblade.

11th December. At Queen Street, Mrs Robertson, late of Tartowie, aged 87.

28th December. Here, Mrs Forbes of Echt.

31st December. Here, Major Fisher, aged 68.

30th December. Here, suddenly, Isabella Allan, wife of John Paterson, advocate.

Queries.

443. Surname of Shearer.—Can anyone give a historical account of the surname of Shearer, which I understand is mostly found in Buchan? I should like to know whether it is of Teutonic or Celtic origin.

W. A. H.

444. Robert Duthie, Poet.—What is known concerning the history of Robert Duthie, the Kincardineshire author of poems and songs?

Mearnsman.

445. ARLES.—When did the system prevail of giving a sum of money as evidence of the completion of a bargain? What does the word "arles" really mean, and is the practice of giving the engaging gratuity confined now to farm and domestic servants?

ALPHA.

446. R. S. PILLANS.—R. S. Pillans—a Scottish comedian, probably related to the printing firm of H. and J. Pillans, of Edinburgh, whose premises fronted the Mound, or else to Professor Pillans, a great authority on education—came out to Australia some 25 years back; I cannot give the precise date. I saw him at the Theatre Royal, Melbourne, in the character of "Dandie Dinmont," in the operatic drama from Scott's novel "Guy Mannering," and also in Murray's "Cramond Brig" as "Jock Howieson." He sang several Scottish ditties with great vim, especially Kenmure Maitland's "Auld Reekie." He had achieved a great reputation in Edinburgh burlesques and pantomimes, in such parts as the Widow Muetapha, Sandy Gadwallader, King Kokoleekie, and Ben Macdhui. He was a fine breezy actor, and I was sorry to hear of his death in Scotland shortly after his return from Australia. In this respect he resembled the late John Mungall, a Fifeshire actor, noted for his step dancing and representation of the "Dumb Man of Manchester," who came to Australia about 1860, and died suddenly on his return to Edinburgh. What was Mr Pillans's Christian name and the date of his decease?

ALBA.

Answers.

32. QUARTERMASTER OF THE KIRK.—In the 17th century every parish in Scotland was by its kirk-session divided into districts (the term used was quarters), each being placed under the care of an elder or deacon, who in consequence got the designation of Quartermaster. It was his duty to report to the session all offences against the laws of the Church.

R. D.

335. T. MEARS, BELL-FOUNDER, LONDON.—Mr Cuthbertson, in his recently-published work "The Edinburgh University Library," states on page 17 that "The bell erected in the Bell-House of Edinburgh University Library bears the inscription—

"T. Mears, of London, Fecit 1821."

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

431. CHARLES CRAMOND, FIDDLE-MAKER.—I have no information regarding Charles Cramond, but know that the sobriquet "Cramond" as applied to Alexander Murdoch is a corruption of the word "Cremona," that Italian town having been for long famous for the excellence of its violins.

B.

437. SIMPSON AND WHYTE, CLOTHIERS, ABERDEEN.—Alexander Simpson retired from the co-partnery of Simpson and Whyte on 31st March, 1840 when public intimation was made that the business was to be continued by John Whyte and his son, Alexander B. Whyte, at 21 Union Buildings.

T. Y.

No. 102.—March 30, 1910.

Ogstons in Aberdour Parish.

According to Temple's "Thanage of Fermartyn," the fifteenth in succession of the Aberdeenshire Ogstons is John Ogston, in Ironhill of Coburty, who lived in the latter part of the 17th century, and is described as son of George Ogston, in Coburty. As George was admittedly head of the Ogston family, this relationship is the most important part of the deduction, and therefore requires careful scrutiny.

The presumption is that George Ogiston, in Coburty, died without issue, because his father George, laird of Auchmacludy, was succeeded—not by him and his children, but by his younger brother William. In the Poll Book of 1696, Auchmacludy is a gentleman's holding, tenanted by William Forbes, "Gentleman," who had six servants and four sub-tenants. Coburty, a place of similar extent, was then divided into two farms — Mains of Coburty and Little Coburty—and a number of crofts, of which "Urinall" or Ironhill was one. One-half of Urinall is tenanted by John Ogstoune and his wife, and he is a crofter, having neither servants, grassmen, nor sub-tenants. So that there is a sudden descent in fortune from George Ogiston, tenant of Coburty, to John Ogstoune, a pendicler within its bounds.

Further, the similarity in surname does not prove relationship, because the Poll Book shows that Ogstoune is a very common name in the parish, there being "William Ogstoune, tayleour, in Killiewhairne," and his wife; "George Ogstoun, a grassman, in Quarrelburn"; Margaret Ogstoune and her mother, sub-tenants in Woodhead; John Ogstoune, shoemaker, and his wife, in Killiewhairne; and John Ogstoun, farm servant—fee, £5 per annum.

The proof of descent therefore simply amounts to this—that George Ogiston had a gentleman's holding in Aberdour parish, and that some time afterwards John Ogstoune was a crofter in the same neighbourhood, and shared the name of Ogston with a number of other heads of families in humble circumstances.

A further piece of evidence is in existence to show that there were Ogstons about Urinall before John Ogstoune was born, or his alleged father, George Ogiston, ever saw Coburty.

In Pitcairn's "Criminal Trials," vol. II., p. 394, Chene of Pennan is accused by William Cuik in Urinach (Urinall) of abducting his daughter Marjorie against her will in July, 1597. Chene denied the crime, and alleged that a certain "Rychart Ugistone" had persuaded the Cuiks to make a false charge against him. It is self-evident that John Ogstoune in Urinall has more chance of being connected with this "Rychart" in the same pendicle some time previously than with a neighbouring baronial family. "Rychart" does not appear in the authorised Ogston pedigree either as an ancestor or collateral, his contemporary being George Ogiston of Auchmacludy, grandfather of George, "in Coburty."

The "Battle of Corrichie" Ballad.

The late Mr Gavin Turreff included in his "Antiquarian Gleanings" (1871) the ballad of the "Battle of Corrichie," fought on 28th October, 1562, between the Earl of Huntly, on Queen Mary's side, and the partisans of the Earl of Moray. Mr Turreff, in a prefatory note, stated that the ballad bore unquestionable marks of antiquity, and first appeared in Ruddiman's "Weekly Magazine" about 1750.

I was startled on reading this, as any tyro in ballad lore can easily discern that it is a pseudo antique, very loosely put together, the spelling of words being grotesquely altered to resemble the ancient style, such being conspicuous failures to the erudite antiquary—thus "Quine" for "Queen," which same word was vulgar Aberdonian for "quean" (or girl) in my young days. The Bannatyne Manuscript was compiled six years after this battle, and the poems therein preserved have a distinct tang of the olden time which the 1750 ballad lacks. Aytoun, in his "Ballads of Scotland" (2 vols., 1858) correctly calls it a rude ballad composed in the dialect of Aberdeen, by one John Forbes, schoolmaster at Maryculter, upon Deeside; but in this he simply repeats what had been already stated in Whitelaw's "Book of Scottish Ballads" (p. 555). Surely Mr Turreff ought to have seen in two reputable collections of national ballads that John Forbes was the author; but perhaps he simply inserted it in his book just as he found it in some publication, and is therefore not responsible.

Mr James Maidment, an estimable Scottish antiquary, attributed the ballad to Robert Forbes, a burlesque writer at the close of the 18th century, who is known as the author of "Ajax's Speech to the Grecian Knabs," in broad Buchan dialect—a most ludicrous production; but the "Battle of Corrichie" was published some 45 years before his time, and his pretensions to the authorship are unwarranted. The Maryculter dominie turns out to have been Rev. John Forbes, A.M., minister of Old Deer, who died there on 29th April, 1769, aged 82. He was born at Pitnacalder, near Fraserburgh, son of a farmer, and ever afterwards, in allusion to his birthplace, was dubbed "Pitney" and "Auld Pitney" by the Jacobites. He was educated at Aberdeen University, where he obtained his degree of A.M. He was schoolmaster at Alvah, in Banffshire, but not at Maryculter. In 1717 he was minister at Pitsligo, and in the following year was translated to Old Deer, where he died. He was a man of athletic build, a fearless preacher, and a strong Hanoverian supporter.

He published a "Collection of Spiritual Songs" in 1757.

Peter Buchan has several allusions to Forbes in his collections of Scottish ballads and songs, and in one of them he claims for Forbes the song, "Nae Dominies for me, laddie"; but that song belongs to the southern part of the kingdom, being the handiwork of Rev. Nathaniel M'Kie, a Galloway parson, who died in 1781.

ALBA.

Melbourne, Australia.

The Cutty Stool.

"The stool of repentance it is a black seat,
And those who sit on it sit wonderfu' blate."

The "pillar," "cutty stool," or "stool of repentance," as it was variously termed, was, in the olden time, an indispensable article of church furniture. When it actually came into use is difficult to determine, but it certainly dated back to pre-Reformation times, and was probably the only item of Church government adopted from the old Roman regime by the establishment of the new faith in Scotland.

This stool of terror probably occupied a position in every church in Scotland. We are told that it "was fashioned like an armchair, and was raised on a pedestal nearly two feet higher than the other seats, directly fronting the pulpit." Its cost, taking into consideration the then value of money, was considerable, for an entry in the Kirk-Session Records of Oyne, of date April 8th, 1666, reads:—"The sessione agrried with David Tam, Wright, in Old Westhall, for to build a stuile of repentance for sex pound, and ordained Robert Duncane, collector, for to pay him."

At first various offences had to be atoned for by appearance upon the stool, but latterly it would appear to have been exclusively reserved for expiation of the sin of fornication. The punishment of appearing therein was alike disgracing and degrading. When the kirk-bell rang, the culprit ascended to the seat of infamy, where the bellman arrayed him in a sackcloth gown, provided for such occasions. The significance attached to this garment was undoubtedly Scriptural, as its use in Biblical times indicated a feeling of deep sorrow—hence in the church it was meant to signify sorrow, contrition, and repentance on the part of its wearer. It may be taken that the public gown, from coming in contact with all sorts of persons, was often by no means over cleanly, therefore it was conceded that those who preferred doing so should be allowed to provide themselves with a similar garment at their own expense. Thus arrayed, with face exposed, the offender had to occupy the cutty stool for three successive Sundays—

"A fixed figure for the hand of scorn,
To point his slow, unmoving finger at."

It is probable that as time advanced these stern regulations were somewhat relaxed, and that one Sunday's public profession of repentance sufficed. Certain it is that private coverings were not, latterly, always gowns, or always made of sackcloth, for we read of a certain laird who arrayed himself in two large coachman's cloaks, which practically covered his face as well as his person.

In common with other similar institutions, the cutty stool suffered from the more general spread of education and enlightenment. At first, rebellion against the universal custom was confined to a few of the more daring spirits, and we may be pardoned for introducing the following two anecdotes as illustrative of the beginning of the end.

A certain Mr Halley, a small landed proprietor, had been guilty of a moral offence, and was summoned to appear before the kirk-session, which he duly did. He readily admitted his offence, and intimated his willingness to pay a fine, but refused point blank to mount the cutty stool. The minister, unwilling that the authority of the Church should be thus abrogated, threatened him with excommunication if he failed to agree. This penalty, in the state of the times, amounted to something perilously near social ostracism, and was much dreaded. Halley was, therefore, averse to incur the ban of the Church, and in the end a compromise was made, whereby he agreed to appear on the stool, provided the minister, in his rebuke, did not mention the name of the other party implicated in the offence. It may here be stated that the rebukes delivered by clergymen were of routine form, and differed only in the substitution of the names of the delinquents. Thus, from beginning to end, they rolled smoothly from the minister's lips. After the laird had mounted the cutty stool, the clergyman began—"Mr James Halley, you appear here, before God and this congregation, to confess and declare your contrition for the heinous sin of fornication wi'——" here he suddenly recollected his compact, and unconventionally proceeded—"but I needna say wha wi'; we a', a' ken wha wi'." The minister thus completely turned the tables on the laird, for the affair was noised abroad far and near, attaining to much greater publicity than if the rebuke had been administered in the usual form.

At a later date, another gentleman went a step further than the unfortunate Mr Halley. Summoned for a similar offence, he, too, refused to submit to the infamy of public penance, turning a deaf ear to all entreaties and expostulations. As a last resort, the minister threatened him with excommunication. "Weel, weel," replied the delinquent, "ye can excommunicate me if ye like; the deil a hair care I."

In these incidents can clearly be traced the gradual and strengthening power of change of opinion.

And now we come to consider a rather curious sidelight on this matter. The institution of the cutty stool was—ostensibly at least—intended to secure a higher degree of morality among the people. Did the church really de-

sire a perfectly moral people? An affirmative answer would appear not to be above question. In addition to the profession of public repentance, a monetary fine was always imposed, hence, the more numerous the offences, the larger the revenue derived. Viewed in this light the utterance of a minister of Cruden, who, in exhorting his flock to be liberal in their contributions, remarked, "Ye a' ken weel we've had nothing from the cutty stool for some time past."

Hostile opinion becoming more and more pronounced against this hoary institution, it was gradually abandoned, though it is to be believed its use was continued in some remote places until towards the beginning of last century. It is to be seriously doubted if the use of the cutty stool was ever productive of much good result. On different temperaments the effect would, of course, be different. One class of delinquents it would assuredly tend to harden, and would become to them a matter of course, and no punishment at all. Far different would its effect be on sensitive natures. What would not these have done—aye, and did too—to escape the obloquy, shame, and disgrace of such a penance. It turned sins into crimes; for it was a direct incentive to concealment of pregnancy and child murder. It is even doubtful if some of the more sensitive did not prefer a suicide's grave to the hard and degrading ordeal. Thus, on the one hand, it made hardened sinners harder still, and on the other, turned shrinking defaulters into downright criminals.

David Grewar, F.S.A. Scot.

Inscriptions in St Andrew's Episcopal Church, Aberdeen.

(Continued from No. 95—February 9.)

At the base of a chaste hexagonal baptismal font there is inscribed—

In Memory of
Patrick Robertson,
who died July 1,
MDCCCXX., aged xlvii.,
and of Ann, his wife,
who died
August xiv.,
MDCCCXLIV., aged lxviii.

Patrick Robertson, merchant in Aberdeen, and his wife, Ann Craigie, were the parents of the celebrated James Craigie Robertson (mentioned below).

James Craigie Robertson (1813-1882), canon of Canterbury, and author of the "History of the Christian Church," was born in 1813 at Aberdeen. His early education was gained chiefly at the Udny Academy, though, owing to his mother's frequent migrations, he is said to have been at twelve schools. His father was a Presbyterian, but his mother was Episcopalian. He studied for a time for the Scottish Bar, but having resolved upon ordination, he entered Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1831, and graduated B.A. in 1834, and M.A. in 1838. He was ordained in 1836. After serving two curacies, Robertson was, in 1846, instituted to the vicarage of Bekesbourne, near Canterbury. There he largely devoted himself to literary work, concentrating his attention on historical research. In 1859 he was made Canon of Canterbury, and from 1864 to 1874 was Professor of Ecclesiastical History at King's College, London. Pressure of literary work, combined with the grief caused by the death of a son, in 1877, told upon him severely. He died at Canterbury on 9th July, 1882. He married, in 1839, the sister of his college friend, Richard Stevenson, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and was survived by two sons and three daughters. He was a man of great learning, and had the faculty of using it judiciously. He numbered among his intimate friends William MacPherson, editor of the "Quarterly Review"; John Murray, publisher; Dean Stanley; Alexander Dyce, the Shakespearean scholar; and Tennyson. The "Aberdeen Daily Free Press" four days after his death stated that he was also the contemporary and friend of Joseph Robertson (1810-1866), John Stuart (1813-1877), and other local illuminati. A list of his literary works and the books he edited is given in the Dictionary of National Biography, Vol. xlviii., pp. 412-413, from which some of the above particulars are gleaned. [See also "Records of Marischal College," Vol. ii., pp. 454 and 457; "Scottish Notes and Queries," Vol. xii., 1st Series, p. 21; and Professor C. S. Terry's article on "The Historians" in "Studies in the History and Development of the University of Aberdeen" (Aberdeen: 1906), p. 149.] Mr Henry T. Mead, Royal Museum, Canterbury, informs me that Canon Robertson and his wife were buried in the churchyard of St Martin's, Canterbury.

A marble statue of a Highlander on the north side is inscribed at base—

To the Memory of / Lieutenant-Colonel R. W. T. Gordon, 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, / who died on board the hospital ship "Ganges" at Port Said, / on the 31st May, 1885, returning from active service. / A good soldier and true friend. / Erected by his comrades.

Colonel Robert W. Thew Gordon, according to Mr J. M. Bulloch, was the second son of Colonel William Gordon (died 1841), whose sister, Ann Margaret Gordon (not daughter, as Mr Bulloch states in "House of Gordon," ii., 303), married Robert Gordon, son of James Gordon in Oldmeldrum. He entered the army in 1858; served in the Ensofzaie campaign, 1863-4; and in the Umbeyla Pass under Sir John Garrock, for which he received a medal and clasp. Accompanying Sir Garnet Wolseley to the Gold Coast in 1873 on special service, he served throughout the first phase of the Ashantee War. He was 45 years of age at his death (see "Daily Free Press," 5th June, 1885, where his brilliant war services are

detailed at length). A brother, Rev. Thomas Wilkie Gordon, once held a curacy in Aberdeen.

A marble tablet affixed to the wall of the east side bears—

†

Sacred
to the Memory of
Michael Russell Suther.
"Those that seek me early
shall find me."

The above was a son of Bishop Suther and his wife, Catharine Fraser.

A marble tablet on the wall of the chancel is inscribed—

†

To the Glory of God,
and in fond memory of
a beloved father and mother.
Gordon Pirie,
27th July, 1825,—28 June, 1901.
Valentine R. De L. Pirie,
1st June, 1827,—14th May, 1900.

Gordon Pirie of Chateau de Varennes, France, of the firm of Messrs Alexander Pirie and Sons, Stoneywood, was a son of Alexander Pirie of Waterton, and Ann Logie, and brother of Alexander Pirie, who died 20th November, 1875. Valentine Rousseau De Labrosse died at Arno, Ventnor, Isle of Wight. A wall monument in St Peter's Cemetery, Aberdeen, is inscribed—

Gordon Pirie,
1825-1901.
and his wife,
Valentine Rousseau de Labrosse,
1827—1900.

A cross within the same enclosure is inscribed —Gordon Pirie, / born 1825, died at Varennes, 1901. / Valentine, wife of Gordon Pirie, / born June 1st, 1827, died May 14, 1900. / "Until the day break and the shadows flee away." / "Thou wilt keep her in perfect peace."

Another cross in front bears—

Sophia Tyrell, / Comtesse R. de Labrosse, / died 8th December, 1858.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

Bibliography of William Thom.

The following is a list of references to books and magazine articles bearing upon the life and work of William Thom. It is not expected that the list is complete, and it would be a favour if any reader who can add to it would kindly communicate with me, and a supplementary list might be given later. Biographical dictionaries and encyclopædias are omitted, as also are all anthologies containing poems by William Thom, as these do not add anything to our knowledge of the poet and his work:—

"Eclectic Review." November, 1845. Art. v. —"Rhymes and Recollections of a Hand Loom Weaver," by William Thom, of Inverury. Second edition, with additions. London: Smith, Elder, and Co., Cornhill. Page 572.

Prefixed to the 1880 edition of "Rhymes and Recollections" there is an interesting biographical sketch of Thom, written by W. Skinner.

"Grass of Parnassus from the Bents o' Buchan." Peterhead: David Scott, 1887. Page 34. A Poet on Ravenscraig. By William Thom. The above is a letter from "W. Thom to Mr Charles Brand," who lived close by Ravenscraig Castle. The letter is dated "Inverury, July 17th, 1844," and contains—"Lines written at Ravenscraig, 1843."

"Hogg's Weekly Instructor," Vol. 1, New Series, 1848. Article, "William Thom," page 136.

"Macmillan's Magazine," February, 1864 [Masson, David]. "Dead Men Whom I Have Known; or Recollections of Three Cities." William Thom of Inverury. Page 337.

Report of the Proceedings at a Dinner given to Mr William Thom, at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, on the 26th of February, 1845.

This is a 16 page pamphlet.

Symons, Arthur — "William Thom, the Weaver." In "The Book-Lover's Magazine," Vol. vii., 1908. Page 102.

This essay was subsequently included in

Symons, Arthur—"The Romantic Movement in English Poetry," 1909. Page 326.

Walker, William — "The Bards of Bon-Accord," 1375-1860. Aberdeen, 1887. Page 462.

"Westminster Review." Vol. 40. 1843. Review of—"Poems. By William Thom, Inverury, Aberdeenshire (unpublished)." page 312.

Williams, Alf. M.—"Studies in Folk-Song and Popular Poetry." Elliot Stock. London, 1895. Article—"William Thom, the Weaver Poet." Page 166.

There is some information about Thom in the "Living Age." Vol. 3, page 694; the "Monthly Review," old series, No. 165, page 339, and in Douglas Jerrold's "Shilling Magazine," but as I have been unable to verify these references I have not included them in the list meantime; nor an article which appeared in the "Scottish Review" from the pen of Miss Rosaline Masson, and which was replied to in a long and interesting letter by Mr G. M. Fraser, librarian – because I have not got the date. Perhaps some reader will kindly examine these books and tell me by direct reply if I am right.

James B. Thomson.

26 Grosvenor Place, Aberdeen.

Kinneff in the 17th Century.

EXTRACTS FROM KIRK-SESSION RECORDS.

(Continued.)

The following entry of 9th August, 1646, is interesting as showing the existence of Caterline as a separate parish:—This day R—— H—— in Milhill (and his sonne) was delaited for profaining the Saboth in fighting with L—— S—— in Caterline, and he was ordained to be charged against the next day, and the minister to desire Mr Thomas Cargill, minister of Caterline, to charge L—— S—— to compeir yt he also might satisfie seeing the scandall was given in this parochin.

11th October. Sir Jhon Douglas was chosen to be ruling elder.

27th December. Margaret Allardes in the parochin of Arbuthnot being delated for selling of some commodities at ye church was ordained to be charged. She had ultimately to make repentance before the pulpit.

From April to July, 1647, there were no collections taken at Kinneff for fear of the infection of plague. In October, 1648, a fast was appointed for removing the plague from Monrosse and Dundee. The minister, accompanied by an elder, made a house-to-house collection for those in Montrose who had been afflicted by the plague, and realised 40 libs.

In November the elders were Andro Arbuthnot of Futhes, George Ogilvie of Barras, Robert Arbuthnot, Thomas Erskine, Robert Erskine, Jhon Erskine, Robert Barclay, Gilbert Forbes, James Forbes, and Thomas Follie. At the same time the deacons were David Leper elder, Andro Mill, Robert Leper, David Sutor, James Stevin, James Wat, and Andro Dorward.

On 24th December the Covenant was renewed and solemnly sworne by the minister and all the people, and after the blessing the minister charged all that could write to stay still and subscribe the same.

On February 11th, 1649, the minister told that he heard Jhon R—— and his servants threshing in his barn the last Saboth while he was going to Bervie. The farmer said it was a case of necessity, but this plea was not received—public repentance being ordered.

On 2nd December an extraordinary scene took place in church. A young man followed A—— T——, to have stricken him we ane drawne sword, while his mother cursed the said A—— T—— and the minister. A week later these brawlers, humbled upon their knees, confessed their profanation of the Sabbath.

One callous offender, who troubled the session for a long time, was at length driven to the admission "that he could not shed tears, and yt he was more castin doune than he could make (evident)."

On 18th August, 1650, "This day George Ogilvie [within two years he was the stalwart defender of Dunnottar Castle] having before the presbyterie confessed his accession to the onlaull engagement in subscribing ye onlaull band for carrying on the same, and having confest some malignant speeches, and ye receipt of the Earle of Seafort[h] intill his house, and tho keeping him there the space of fourteen dayes, did according to the ordinance of ye presbyterie upon his knees before the pulpit confesse the same guiltinesse and did ask God pardon for the same and promised never to ioyne in any such course afterward and wtall did before the congregation subscribe the declaration appoynted by the General Assembly, July 20, 1649.

At the time of the Communion in 1652 the siege of Dunnottar Castle was going on, if not ended. The passage of the Cromwellian troops would seem to have caused no cessation of worship at Kinneff church. It is noteworthy that in February, 1652, a sum of £6 1s was given to the glaisin-wright for mending ye kirk windowes. This was about the time that the Regalia was brought to the church, and perhaps indicates that the building was being put into a fit state to house the treasure.

In 1655 the new offence of "Ganging on the Sabath" appears.

August 12. Elspit Lawsone compeired and complained yat her sonne Jon Simson hade abused her by evill speeches; he was therefore appoynted to be chargit to ye next dyet. Subsequently compearing face to face with his mother, the session was convinced of his guilt, and ordained him to make public repentance as well as to pay a penalty.

In 1658 J—— P—— was charged and admonished for resetting M—— S——, "a theiff."

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1843.

4th January. Here, Gavin Mitchell Smith, Esq. of Concraig, aged 30.

9th January. Mrs Lumsden of Kingsford.

28th January. At London, Theodore Gordon, Esq. of Overhall, in his 74th year.

16th February. At her house in Aberdeen, Mrs Brebner of Lairney, aged 80.

16th February. At St John's Wells, Fyvie, Mr George Williamson, aged 56.

8th March. Here, aged 83, Elizabeth Harvey, widow of Dr Alexander Gordon, R.N., Physician, Aberdeen.

11th March. At Aberdeen, Mrs Lumsden of Belhelvie, aged 87.

7th March. At Cairngall, in his 83rd year, John Hutchison, Esq. of Cairngall.

5th April. At Two Mile Cross of Pitfodels, Mr William Mennie, farmer, aged 75 years.

14th April. At 255 Union Street, Mr Thomas Bannerman, manufacturer, in his 48th year.

7th May. At Huntly, Alexander Forsyth, Esq., in his 86th year.

14th May. At Redbridge, Hants, in his 66th year, Walter Morrice, son of the late Rev. William Morrice, Kincardine O'Neil.

30th April. At Thurso, Mrs Couper, Midwife, aged 79. Mrs Couper had exercised her vocation for more than half a century, and her list of children amounts to about 4000, and a mother never died in her hands.

29th May. Here, Rev. William Browning, junior, Minister of St Andrew's Chapel, in his 51st year.

11th June. Rev. Alexander John Forsyth, LL.D., Minister of Belhelvie, in his 75th year.

17th June. At Mugiemoss, Mr Charles Davidson, paper manufacturer, aged 71.

14th June. At his house at Mount Pleasant, Newburgh, Alexander Bethune, labourer, author of "Tales and Sketches of the Scottish Peasantry," "Practical Economy," etc.

11th July. At Manse of Nigg, in his 86th year, Rev. Alexander Thom, Minister of that parish.

8th July. At Berryden Cottage, Rev. James Watt, late of the Grammar School here, in his 71st year.

8th July. At the Manse, Kincardine O'Neil, Rev. John Roger, Minister of that parish.

9th July. At 16 Union Terrace, Aberdeen, Captain Carmichael, aged 75.

23rd July. At Old Aberdeen, William Barrack, merchant, aged 53.

24th July. At New Pitsligo, in his 31st year, Mr Paterson, Surgeon, eldest son of Rev. Mr Fullerton Paterson, New Deer.

12th August. At Schoolhouse, Birse, James Smith, Parochial Schoolmaster of that parish for 30 years.

10th August. At Glenbervie House, James Mitchell Nicolson, Esq of Glenbervie.

12th August. At his house, Ruthrieston, James Barclay, M.A., for many years Parochial Schoolmaster, Gilcomston, in his 72nd year.

2nd September. At Viewfield, Andrew Youngson, Esq. of Viewfield.

6th September. At the Manse, Newhills, in his 23rd year, William Knight Erskine Allan, Surgeon, second son of Rev. James Allan.

25th September. At Carlogie Cottage, Rear-Admiral Sir Arthur Farquhar, K.C.B., aged 71.

27th September. At Keith, John Bremner, Superintendent of Banffshire Police.

12th October. Suddenly, Deacon James Sangster, Flesher, Aberdeen.

3rd October. At 9 Broadford, in her 68th year, Mary Stirling, sister of the late Rev. John Stirling, of Petereculter.

10th October. At Ballater, James Farquharson, Esq., late of Belnabodach, Strathdon, aged 85.

11th October. At Greenhill Cottage, Edinburgh, John Menzies, Esq. of Pitfodels.

2nd October. Here, Mr Keard, aged 67, for upwards of 44 years Precentor in Trinity Church.

9th November. At Fraserburgh, Ann Jolly, sister of the late Bishop Jolly, in her 90th year.

26th November. At Keith, John Grant, Esq., Solicitor, aged 42.

3rd December. At the Manse, Alford, Rev. James Farquharson, LL.D., F.R.S., aged 62.

25th December. Aged 79, Alexander Sutherland, Manufacturer in the Green for upwards of 50 years.

24th December. At Letterfourie House, Banffshire, Sir James Gordon of Gordonstown, Bart.

30th December. At Inverury, John Henderson, aged 74. This honest and intelligent man was for many years servant to Lord Cathcart, and was with his lordship abroad, and also in Ireland during the time of the Rebellion. Old John would often tell with glee many good stories of his skirmishes and narrow escapes from the rebels. At one time when his lordship's horse was shot under him, John had to give up his own, and run for his life with the saddle and bridle on his back, closely pursued. "Next morning," said John, "sax o' their heads were to be seen on the pikes—ye could hae had nae idea o' the rascals, man!"

10th November. At Asseerghur, Major George More, 24th Regiment, Bombay, N.I., eldest surviving son of the late Provost George More of Aberdeen.

12th December. At Peterhead, in his 91st year, John Reid, late principal keeper of the Bell Rock Lighthouse.

30th December. At Aberdeen, Arthur Dingwall Fordyce, Esq. of Culsh and Brucklay.

Queries.

447. "The Assembly's Catechism Modernised.—Who was the writer of "The Assembly's Catechism Modernised," and when and where was it first published? In a new edition published "Stonehaven, printed for Robert Dick, Bervie, by Alexander Clark, 1843," it is stated that the last edition was published "about 25 years ago"; that the publisher was imprisoned by warrant of the Sheriff, on a complaint that the work was seditious and blasphemous: that the Lord Advocate found that it contained neither sedition nor blasphemy, and the publisher was thereupon honourably acquitted, and the Sheriff rebuked. It is also stated that the work was originally published at the end of last century by the author, the late Rev. A—— B——, Professor of Divinity.

R. T. M.

448. Ardoch.—The Keith Register notes that John Ogilvie, younger of Kempcairn, married, April 8, 1715, "Mistress Anna Gordon, second lawfull daughter to Captane James Gordon of Ardoch, last Tutor of Glenbucket." Where was Ardoch? Alexander was the name of the laird of the Ardoch in Ross-shire at this date, and there is no reference to his having been connected with Glenbucket or having had a daughter Anna.

J. M. B.

449. Captain David Scott, Royal Navy.—Who was this naval gentleman who resided in Bon-Accord Terrace in 1832?

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

450. George Davidson.—At a complimentary dinner given to that Nestor of Aberdeen booksellers, Mr Alexander Milne, the chairman, in an interesting address, alluded to George Davidson as having died at Cults in 1872. I have a copy of "The Legend of St Swithin," with a foot-note to the effect that the author died in 1875. Which is the correct date?

Alba.

451. An Escape from Aberdeen Prison.—James Gordon, brother of Arradoul, escaped from Aberdeen prison, August 19, 1698. Why was he put there?

J. M. Bulloch.

452. Arradoul.—A ballad keeps running in my head with the line "'Come fill the bowl,' cried Arradoul." Where, and what ballad, is it?

J. M. B.

[A partial answer to the above two queries is to be found in the following passage in Robertson's "Book of Bon-Accord," relative to escapes from the Tolbooth of Aberdeen (p. 205)—

"In 1698, James Gordon, brother of the laird of Arradoul, walked out at noon, having intoxicated his keepers. This gentleman was incarcerated for the slaughter of Leith of Overhall in a duel; and an old ballad, commemorating the manner of his flight, is still remembered—

"'Fill up the bowl,' cried Arradoul,
'Spare not the wine at a',
I'll make them drink until they wink,
And Jamie win awa'.'
"He didna', like a thief at night,
Loup o'er the castle wa',
At twelve o'clock, in fair day light,
He stately strode awa'.
"O Bon-Accord! where was your Lord,
Your Lord and Baillies a'?
O fie for shame! ye were to blame
That Gordon's fled awa'.

"When the jailers awoke from their debauch, they found themselves deprived of their offices; they were afterwards put in the stocks, imprisoned, fed on bread and water, and with their wives and families banished for ever from the city."

See also "Extracts from the Council Register of the Burgh of Aberdeen, 1643-1747" (Scottish Burgh Records Society, 1872)—entries under date 16 and 26 September, 1698. Arradoul, it may be added, is in the parish of Rathven, Banffshire.—Ed.]

Answers.

431. Charles Cramond, Fiddle-Maker.—He resided in Huntly Street, Aberdeen, in 1832.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

George W. Bethune, D.D. (2nd S., viii., 110, 127).—His parents were Scotch, father named Divie Bethune, a merchant in New York, who was widely known as a philanthropist, and his mother was a daughter of the sainted Isabella Graham, well-known in religious biography. He was a pupil for some time with Dr John Mason, a Scottish Presbyterian minister, and with such surroundings it need not be wondered at that he had a tender regard for the country of his ancestors. "J. B. T." supplies accurately the succeeding points of Bethune's career. With respect to his death at Florence, there is no cenotaph there to his memory in the Protestant Cemetery. I visited it in 1903, and saw the tombs of Mrs Browning, Walter S. Landor, and Arthur H. Clough, poets; also those to Dr Southwood Smith and Theodore Parker. The only tombstones to Scots that I noticed were to Sir George Baillie and Walter Lowrie.

Alba.

433. Blairfindy Castle, Banffshire.—For particulars about Blairfindy consult Macgibbon and Ross ("Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland," II., 82-84.)

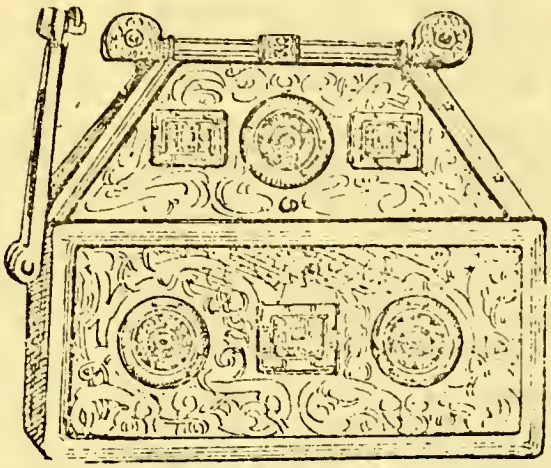
H.

No. 103.—April 6, 1910.

The Monymusk Reliquary.

Dr Joseph Anderson, in a paper read at the last monthly meeting of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, described a group of architecturally-shaped shrines of the early Celtic Church, which form a class of relics of singular interest alike as works of art and for their historical associations. Referring to the Celtic practice of enshrining the relics of their native saints, he instanced the bell-shrines which are peculiar to Scotland and Ireland, and the book-shrines, of which the most famous was that of the Psalter of St Columba, styled the Battler, because it used to be borne thrice round the host of the tribe on the day of battle to ensure them victory over their enemies. There are no book-shrines now in Scotland, but two are noticed as existing previous to the Reformation. The architecturally-shaped shrines, modelled on the representation of the Temple at Jerusalem as it is represented in the Book of Kells, are only six in number. Of these the Scottish one, known as the Monymusk reliquary, is the finest; three are preserved in Ireland; and two were found in Norway, whither they had been taken as plunder by the Vikings, the last discovered having been found in a Viking grave mound of the ninth century, containing a double burial of a man and woman laid in the fore part of the boat, which was buried with them, along with their possessions, arms, and ornaments. The extreme veneration in which these shrines were held was testified not only by the fact that all the resources of the applied art of the time were lavished upon them, but also by the way in which their preservation was sought to be secured by endowing them with grants of land and placing them in the custody of hereditary keepers.

Regarding the Monymusk reliquary, Dr Anderson has previously alluded to it in his work on "Scotland in Early Christian Times," describing it as "a very beautiful and very remarkable reliquary." An account of it is given by Rev. Dr W. M. Macpherson in his "Church and Priory of Monymusk" (Aberdeen, 1895). He says it has been preserved time out of mind in Monymusk House, and is evidently a small casket for containing some relics of a saint. It is "a small wooden box hollowed out of the solid, and covered with plates of pale bronze and silver. It was originally jewelled, and is still enamelled, and the tracings of the characteristic Celtic spiral ornaments that were engraved on it are still visible. At both ends it had a hooked plate with a hinge, and a strap might readily be inserted into the hook to let it be carried on one's breast, but one plate is now lost."



Dr Anderson says that, as far as he knows, the Monymusk reliquary is the only one of its kind and period now existing in Scotland, and that, if it is not the Brecbannoch (or Bracbenoch) of St Columba, "it is one of the strangest coincidences that a reliquary answering so closely to it should have been preserved at Monymusk." The "Brecbannoch"—a name formed from "breac be annaighthe," "maculosum benedictum"; the blessed speckled or spotted thing—has been supposed to be a banner or standard, but it is now conjectured to have been a small shrine for holding relics, probably one or two small bones of St Columba. How it came to Monymusk—which, according to tradition, was originally a house of the Culdees, a Columban foundation, "the first seat of Christianity and Celtic civilisation in the Garioch"—is thus told by Dr Macpherson—

"King William the Lion founded the great Abbey of Arbroath in memory of Thomas a Becket, who had been killed a few years before, and among other gifts he bestowed on it between 1204 and 1211 the custody of the Brecbannoch, along with the lands of Forglen that were attached to that office. How King William obtained possession of it is not known, but probably it had been kept in the parish of Forglen by the hereditary tenants of the Church lands. One obligation attached to it, and to holding 'the fair barony' pertaining to it, was that its guardian should carry it as often as the Scottish army went into battle. Bernard, Abbot of Arbroath, was present at the battle of Bannockburn, and, doubtless, performed the service binding on him by carrying it round Bruce's army, but seven months after the battle, with the consent of his abbey, he executed a charter, which is dated 18th January, 1315, making over its custody, along with the lands of Forglen, to 'Malcolm of Monimusk,' with the provision that he and his heirs should take the place of the abbot in bearing it in the king's army as often as there was need. It remained for three generations in the care of the Monymusk family, until, a female becoming heiress, its custody and the lands were granted in 1333 to her husband, who was of the Fraser family. In 1411 the lands of Forglen were surrendered to the Convent, and

about nine years after they were conferred on Sir Alexander Irvine of Drum, and in the charters of that family in 1481 and 1483 the service in the army connected with the Brecbannoch is again specially mentioned.

"If this casket is really the Brecbannoch, it is singular how it found its way again to Monymusk House, and no one can say at what time it did so. It has been always regarded as a much-venerated treasure, and it would be strange indeed if this shrine was carried round Bruce's army to give them courage for their victory."

A somewhat detailed account of the Bracbenoch is given in the recently-published work on "The Irvines of Drum," by Lieutenant-Colonel Jonathan Forbes Leslie. The view there taken, however, is that the Bracbenoch was "the consecrated banner" of St Columba, and was the standard of the Abbey, to which its keeping was entrusted. Colonel Forbes Leslie offered for consideration, however, the opinion that the Bracbenoch was a garment of St Columba, which, after his death, was believed to possess miraculous power, this opinion being suggested by an incident related both by Adamnan and Cuminius. "Both these ancient biographers relate that, some time after the death of the saint, a miracle was worked by means of the vestment in which 'the man of God' was wrapped at the time of his dissolution. They assert that, in a period of continued drought and impending plague, certain ceremonies were performed with this relic, when heavy and abundant rain immediately commenced, whereby plenteous crops were ensured and famine and disease were averted from the land."

It may be added that illustrations of the front and end views of the Monymusk reliquary (from electros belonging to the Society of Antiquaries) form the frontispiece to Dr Macpherson's book.

The Peel Tower.

The following verses—which appeared in "Punch" of 16th March—so excellently describe a peel tower and the incidents that might be associated with it, that they may well be reproduced, despite the cynicism in the second and the concluding verses—

Old ruin, slumbering where the pines
  Mass at the entrance to the glen,
I trace in your grey moss-grown lines
  Old tales of far-off times and men!

Could you but speak, how you'd enlarge
  On blades sent home, on blows withstood,
Fierce charge and roaring countercharge—
  I love such gentle deeds of blood.

So, when I've lingered where you lend
  The shadow of your rampart high
On afternoons when hill-tops blend
  Their blue with sister blue of sky,

It seems to me the stunted firs
  That in the middle distance stand
Are little Pictish moorlanders,
  A painted, cautious, skin-clad band,

That creep and crouch in slow retreat,
  And watch, with flint-tipped dart on string,
The Legion's skirmishers that beat
  Methodically through the ling;

While by the river's broken banks
  Again the sun's aglint upon
The Eagles, and the ordered ranks,
  Behind their tall centurion.

They fade; and now each ragged spruce
  Becomes a dhuinewassal stern
Who goes to strike a blow for Bruce,
  And break a spear at Bannockburn.

Again, I see a picket pause:
  I know the Stuart lilt he croons
The while he gazes o'er the shaws
  For "Butcher" Cumberland's dragoons.

You tough old stones—you're well imbued
  With many a desperate doing, dared
By painted Pict, by clansman rude,
  By covenanting Georgian laird!

You've seen the ruffian side of things,
  Fights grimly settled man to man,
Red cattle-raids and moss-troopings,
  The robber, and the cateran.

And yet perhaps most crude, you'll find,
  Of all you've watched go down the Pass,
Are those to-day who leave behind
  Their sandwich papers on your grass.

The Lights of Byegone Days.

Mr James Smith, of the Anthropological Museum, Marischal College, read an interesting paper on this subject at a recent meeting of the Aberdeen Working Men's Natural History and Scientific Society. Through Mr Smith's kindness, we are permitted to give the following extracts—

. . . From the earliest ages man has been able to originate fire; for we have no better proof of the existence of man or the traces of man's hands than the remains of fire in the form of charcoal. It is firmly believed that man, in his crudest and earliest existence, was the only animal who could originate fire, and with its aid cook his food. . . No savage tribe really seems to have been so low as to be without fire. In limestone caverns, among the relics of the Paleolithic period, remains of fire are found in the shape of burned bones and charcoal, which go to prove that even in that remote antiquity man made fires with which to cook his food, warm himself, and obtain light.

Taylor, the anthropologist, tells how in the forests of Africa, when travellers had gone in

the morning and left their fires burning, the huge man-like apes (probably our gorillas) would come and sit round the burning logs till they burned out, not having the sagacity to lay more wood on. This story is often repeated to contrast human intelligence as against the dulness of even the highest apes.

Once upon a time when lightning set fire to a portion of dried grass and burned a forest, primitive man stepped forward and put it to practical use. Observing the advantage that fire was to him, he learned how to keep it smouldering, how to blow it into flame, and also how to carry it with him in his wanderings. Success, however, was uncertain until a lucky chance led him to discover how to produce fire at will, by rubbing two sticks together. . .

The man who discovered how to produce fire by artificial means must have been considered a god, as fire and sun-worship were among the first religions. The ancient Ainos of Japan call "Sun" their best god, and "Fire" their second best. In Japan at the present time on New Year's morning, fire is fetched before dawn from the temple, where the primitive firedrill is reverently kept. This fire, if kept alight the whole year, is supposed to protect the house and its inmates from fire risks. Some of the negro tribes of the Gold Coast keep a constant fire burning in front of their huts, and in bad weather it is brought inside for preservation. If by unlucky chance it goes out, a sacrifice is offered, after which the fire is rekindled by friction. The pieces of wood used for the purpose have been inherited by the chief from his forefathers, and are held in reverence. . . .

Early methods of producing fire are based on a variety of ways—on the application of friction, as in the rubbing together of two pieces of wood, or concussion, as the impact of flint and steel or even two pieces of stone. One of the simplest arrangements is the stick and groove. . . . Such was the way the aborigines of Australia used to make fire. Many improvements upon this method have been made, for instance, the American Indians use a bow drill. . . .

Through the kindness of Sir William Macgregor, now Governor of Queensland, a large collection of pre-historic soapstone lamps, trays, pots, and fire producing iron pyrites, is placed in the Anthropological Museum, Marischal College. These implements belonged to a now extinct tribe of Eskimo Indians, called Biothics, who inhabited the Button Islands, lying at the mouth of the Hudson Bay. This tribe produced fire by striking two pieces of iron pyrites together, thus causing the sparks to fall on the down of the cotton grass, which grows abundantly in that country. As they had neither wood nor coal, they used the blubber of seals. The food was cooked in stone pots, which were hung over the trays or lamps, these being suspended on a tripod by a strong thong made of bear's skin, and attached to perforations at the four corners. . . .

Doubtless our primitive forefathers used many of the above systems for producing fire and light. After history began to dawn, the earliest invention for the production of fire in our land was the flint, the fleerish, and the tinder box—the tinder being half-burnt cotton or linen. The fleerish was made of steel of various patterns—some with pins for redding the pipe, etc. About seventy years ago spunks were invented. These were lighted by the application of tinder. Spunks were pieces of wood tipped at both ends with sulphur, so that when the sulphur was ignited it kindled the wood. I have the happy recollection of seeing about fifty years ago an old woman of 60 use the tinder while she attended the markets selling toys. I can see the little body at her stand, dressed in a black gown, with red shawl, and white mutch. As customary with her class in those days, she carried a clay pipe, with metal top, chain, and redding pin. She had also a small pocket tinder box filled with sufficient tinder for the day's requirements. I can remember well how she lit her pipe. Removing the lid of the tinder box she caused the sparks from the flint and fleerish to fall on the tinder, which became at once ignited. She then took a portion of the burning tinder between her forefinger and thumb, put it in her pipe, replaced the lid, and smoked away like a miniature limekiln.

Tinder being the only way of obtaining fire in those early days, everyone had a tinder box supplied with tinder. Great was the consternation of the house-wife when, on a morning, she found that her stock of tinder was exhausted. She had to run to her nearest neighbour for the loan of her tinder box, or get a burning piece of peat, wood, or coal (which was usually carried in a metal pot) to light her fire. About 30 years ago, or even later, the tinder was in use among fishermen along the Buchan coast. . . . A good substitute for tinder was invented in the shape of "match," as it was called in Aberdeenshire. The "match" was made of brown paper or cotton dipped in a solution of nitre and then dried. It was used by almost all outdoor smokers, by some of whom it is still preferred. . . .

About 50 years ago, or even later, matches were expensive, and few were used. A small, round, wooden box, turned from the solid wood, and containing about 12 or at most 20 matches, cost a penny. Economical persons sometimes split the matches in two, making one match strike two lights. . . I remember, when a boy, hearing a farmer tell how he produced fire to light his pipe one morning in the fields when he had forgotten to take his "flint and fleerish" with him. Having on a pair of boots with steel toes (these toes being made by the local blacksmith), he procured the down from the top of a burr thistle. He then took a chip from a piece of white quartz, and, after rubbing the thistle down in the ashes of his pipe, he placed it on the quartz in the same way as the match was done. Then having taken off his boot he struck fire from the stone with the steel toe, which ignited the down of the thistle.

This he applied to his pipe very successfully—which again proves that "necessity is the mother of invention."

A system was in use in early days to obtain a light without the application of fire. This was a phosphorus bottle. Those fortunate enough to afford a timepiece or watch used the bottle containing the phosphorus, which required shaking up. The light thus obtained was no doubt dim, but it served its purpose.

The production of fire by artificial means being established, various materials were used for maintaining the light. Among the first was the fir candle. . . . The fir cleaver, fir gully, peer-man, and the kilchin were the articles used for preparing and burning the fir. The peer-man—or beggar man, as he was called—was provided with leaden badges supplied by the parish ministers with the name of the parish, number of badge, and the initials of the minister stamped thereon. The iron fir candle holder was then made by the blacksmith, and was named after the peer-man, so it retained the name of peer-man ever afterwards. . . .

The tallow dip and the tallow candle were used at the time of the fir candle too. The tallow or rush dip was a very simple construction. This was a common rush from the pith of which the rind, with the exception of a thin strip, was peeled off, dipped in melted tallow, and used as a light. Candles were made by dipping the wick in melted tallow until the required thickness was obtained. Candle moulds were then produced, and the candles moulded into shape. . . .

Regarding the crusie—known on Donside as the oily lamp, and in Buchan as oily Peter—it belonged no doubt to very early days. . . . It was made by the local blacksmith and hammered into shape in a stone mould. A crusie lamp was always part of a bride's providing, as well as a spinning wheel, reel and muckle wheel, wool teazers and wool carders—all relics of a byegone age. . . .

Kinneff Collections and Disbursements in the 17th Century.

22nd May, 1652. Collected be ye minister, £5 5s 4d, the quilk was given to William Allexr., his hole hous and guds being brunt withe fyre.

18th Dec. Collected be David Stevine 13s, quhairof David Gadie got 2s for mending ye jogs.

18th June, 1643. To Jhone Cmffurd ane stranger 21s.

12th March. To Giles Mill ane distressed woman 20s.

10th Sept. To ane cripill mane 16s.

3rd Dec. Taken out of the box to give the juste woman yt is ordained to be manteined by the presbitrie 26s 8p.

11th Feby., 1644. The Laird of Ferniflat is here named as William Grame.

29th June. To creeplie thomsone 6s 8p.

24th November. Collection 17s 8d, the qlk was givine to ane distresed man fra Irland.

15th December. 10s givine to ane hurt suldiour going southe.

9th Jany., 1648. To Margaret Guthrie lying bedfast 8s. Item to ane blind lad 8s.

June. For ane wynding sheet to Robert Officer 33. 4s.

Dec. Givin out of Baptisme and Mariage Silver to three or four families of Irish people 4lib.

Aug., 1651. Givin to ane distressed minister 6s 8d.

11th July, 1652. Given to sax shipbroken Frenchmen 12s.

19th Sept. Collected at ye kirk dore for ye people of Glasgowe 20li. 2s.

3rd October. Givin to buy ane wynding sheit to Mart Norie 24s.

To James Steivin to buy clothes to Jon Durrat 12s.

More to Jon Stewart for a poor woman's buriall 5s.

November 28. Givin to ane Scotsman yt was shipbroke 6s.

To Captain Cowsto 6s.

20th November, 1653. Givin to Wm. Murray a gentleman 3lib.

21st May, 1654. Collected for ane poor disseasid man and prisoners 3lib.

16th July. Contribute to ye prisoners in Dunottar 4lb. 10s 4d.

21st Jany., 1655. 6s 4d givin to ane prisoner.

11th Feby. Givin to ane wounded souldier in Fetter Kairn 20s.

15th June, 1656. Givin to ane poor scholler 6s.

29th June. Collected for some captives taken by ye Turks 2 lib. 16s.

31st Aug. Givin to shipmen yat hade ye shipes taken from them——.

1st Feby., 1657. Givin to ane distressed lass 20s.

29th Aug., 1658. Givin to 7 Frenchmen 12s.

20th March, 1659. Collected for ye banished people of Pole and Bohemia £5 3s 4d.

2nd June, 1661. For David Meldrum's bairnes buirall 5s.

15th Dec. Collected for ye bridges of Prosen and Esk 18s 2d.

Aberdeenshire Market Customs.

Petition by the provost, bailies, councils, communities, and inhabitants of the Burghs of the kingdom, and others frequenting the fairs called "St Serffes faire, Bartill faire, and Laurence faire" as follows:—In their controversy with Arthur, Lord Forbes, Alexander, Master of Forbes, his son, the deceased John

Gordon of Newton, and John Leith of Harthill, respecting the extraordinary customs exacted by these persons at the said fairs, and which had been frequently heard by the Council, their Lordships, after sufficient trial and probation, found that the customs complained of were far in excess of those in use to be paid thirty-one years since or thairby, and therefore by their decreet dated 1st March, 1621, they discharged these persons from exacting any higher dues or customs than the following which they then appointed, "To witt, for ane great wob of claith and plaiding, aucht penneis; and for lesse wobs, sax or four penneis, for ane hors load of quhatsomever commodities, aucht penneis; for everie foote lenth of ane merchant's stand, twa penneis; for everie chapman's packe or burdein of geir, foure penneis; for everie sack of wooll, aucht penneis; for everie kow, ox, and hors, foure penneis; for everie sheipe, twa pennies; and everie lambe, ane penneie; and that this custome for the ky and hors sould onelie be payed at thair comming in to the mercats; for everie daiker (daiker, the number of ten or, in practice, twelve hides) or hors load of hydes, aucht pennies; for everie cordonner's stand for shoone, foure penneis; and for everie tent or pavillioun for selling of meate or drinke, ane quart of aill, or the pryce thairof." But the said Lord Forbes and his son, George Gordoun, now of Newtoun, and John Leith of Hairthill continue to uplift the exorbitant dues complained of, and the petitioners therefore crave that letters may be directed charging them to uplift no other dues than those contained in the said decre as above.

On the back "Apud Holyriudhous, decimo quinto die mensis July, 1628. Fiat ut petitur.

Sr. J. Scottistarvett."

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1844.

15th January. At the Manse, Peterhead, Rev. William Donald, M.A.

24th January. Here in his 80th year, Alexander Chivas, Esq., late Cashier of the Commercial Banking Company.

13th January. At the Hague, in his 84th year, Sir William Johnston of Hilton, Bart. The deceased was the seventh Baronet of his House, and married first Miss Bacon, daughter of John Bacon, Esq., of Shrubland Hall, Suffolk, and secondly Miss Bacon, daughter of John Bacon, Esq., of Friern House, Middlesex. He is succeeded by his son, now Sir William Bacon Johnston.

3rd February. At Aberdeen, Ursula Spence, wife of Rev. James Robertson, Minister of St Fergus.

14th February. Here, Miss Mackenzie of Glack.

14th February. At Old Aberdeen, Louisa Gordon, aged 31, wife of Mr James Irvine, Brewer.

11th February. At Macduff, in his 90th year, Alexander Tocher, A.M., Parochial Schoolmaster there for the long period of 67 years.

22nd February. At 10 Hill Place, Edinburgh, Thomas Gordon Bothwell, Teacher, son of George Bothwell, Greenbank, Broadford, Aberdeen.

27th February. At Berrybank, Mrs Agnes Anno Leslie, relict of Hugh Leslie, Esq. of Powis.

10th March. At Crown Terrace, Margaret M. Burnett, wife of William Smith Thom, Esq., in her 22nd year.

27th March. At 4 Golden Square, Harry Leith Lumsden, Esq. of Auchindoir, in his 68th year.

11th March. Here, at 91 Broad Street, Mrs Davidson of Kebbaty, aged 34.

28th March. At 266 George Street, Mrs Catherine Russel, relict of George Russel, Esq. of Skelmuir.

27th March. At Cotton, James Gordon, aged 85.

25th April. At his house Elm Grove, Neston, Cheshire, in his 50th year, Sir John Reid, Bart. of Barra, and on 1st May Lady Reid.

10th May. Here, in her 72nd year, Margaret, eldest daughter of the late Rev. John Ogilvie, D.D., Midmar.

14th May. At Outseats, Mrs Blaikie, senior, in her 79th year.

1st April. At Rectory House, Falmouth, Jamaica, aged 80, Rev. William Fraser, M.A., Rector of Trelawney, and chaplain to the Forces, second son of the deceased Francis Fraser, Esq. of Findrack.

5th June. At Ferryhill, Mr James Abernethy, senior, aged 70.

11th June. At 214 Union Street West, Dr Charles Skene.

8th June. At Howford, Strichen, Helen Ogilvie, wife of A. F. Martin, Esq., Surgeon, and only daughter of the late Rev. George Middleton, Minister of Midmar.

6th June. Here, Mrs Anne Pirie, relict of George Kerr, Esq., Physician, Aberdeen.

11th June. At Peterhead, Gilbert Alexander, senior, aged 89.

16th June. At 5 Ainslie Place, Edinburgh, aged 51, George Andrew Stuart of Inchbreck, M.D. and F.R.S.E.

15th June. At Newburgh, John Black, aged 82.

22nd June. At Balhagardy, in his 78th year, Mr John Maitland, Farmer there, and Elder of the Free Church of Chapel of Garioch.

10th July. At Haddo, Foveran, Mr Gilbert Mitchell, aged 70.

2nd July. At Banff, Patrick Rose, Esq., Sheriff Clerk of Banffshire, aged 64.

23rd July. At Cairnhill, Old Pitsligo, Rev. John Glegg, aged 83.

27th July. At School of Belhelvie, Rev. William Scroggie.

28th July. At Oldmeldrum, John Calder, a well-known character for his bold assertion of the rights of civil liberty.

26th July. At Kincardine O'Neil, John Simpson Walker, Surgeon there, in his 31st year.

1st August. At Drum, Alexander Irvine, Esq. of Drum, in his 90th year. He was born 4th October, 1754, and succeeded to the property of Drum upon the decease of his father in February, 1761.

11th August. At Brucklay Castle, Mrs Margaret Ritchie, widow of William Dingwall Fordyce, Esq. of Techmuiry, aged 67.

11th August. At Edingight, Lady Innes, senior.

15th August. At Heathcot, John Garioch, Esq. of Heathcot, aged 73.

19th August. At his seat, Fetternear House, the Count Leslie of Balquhain, aged 24.

15th September. Here, James Reid Younger, Belleville, Gilcomston, aged 25

23rd September. At the Manse, Grange, Rev. William Duff, in his 53rd year.

7th October. At Tanfield, Woodside, William Anderson Gray, Surgeon, aged 48.

9th October. At Dyce, in his 47th year, Mr Robert Cruickshank, Schoolmaster of the parish.

23rd October. At 75 Union Street, Ann Hobb, wife of John Hay, Carver and Guilder.

22nd October. At Kintore, Mr George Watt, A.M., in his 25th year. . . .

29th October. Here, George Still, Esq. of Millden.

3rd December. Here, aged 58, William Knight, LL.D., Professor of Natural Philosophy in Marischal College.

21st December. At Aberdeen, Mrs Innes of Ballogie.

Queries.

453. Chalmers Queries.—I. Gul. Camerarii "Disputationes Theologicæ." I have lying before me a small octavo of pp. [xii] plus 165 plus [11] with the title

> Gulielmi / Camerarii. / Scoti, Fintraei, / Sacrae Theologiæ / Doctoris. / et Professoris emeriti, etc. / Disputationes Theologicæ / . . . / Oppositæ / Disputationibus Roberti Baronis, Ministri et Professoris / Neabredonensis, de iisdem materiis. / Parisiis, / Apud Dionysium Houssaye, Via Camelitana. / M. DC. XXXIX. / Cum approbatione.

Who was this William Chalmers, native of Fintray? Whence did he get his degree of Doctor, and where was he professor? The work described is in neither the British Museum nor the Bibliotheque Nationale.

II. Georgii Camerarii "Sylva."—In "The Poetical remains of the late Dr John Leyden" (Lond. 1819), p. 204, is the note:—"On the departure of our author [John Leech or Leochæus] from Paris in 1620, a poetical address was published, and inscribed to him, under the title of 'Sylva Leochæo suo sacra, sive Lycidæ desiderium, a Georgio Camerario Scoto': Paris, 1620."

Where can a copy of this "Sylva" be found? It is in neither the British Museum nor the Bibliotheque Nationale, though the former has the same author's "Emblemata amatoria": Venetiis, 1627

George Chalmers graduated M.A. at University and King's College, Aberdeen, in 1620. John Leech has verses to him in the fourth book of his "Epigrammata," p. 93. Cf. Mr Keith Leask's "Musa Latina Aberdonensis," Vol. III., p. 263.

III. G. Camerarii "Scoticanae Ecclesiae Infantia."—There was sold at Sotheby's on 2nd December, 1879 (Sale Catalogue of David Laing's Library Part 1, No. 607):—"Camerarii vel Chalmers (G), Scoticanae Ecclesiae Infantia virilis Aetas, Senectus; autograph of 'Liber Patricii Camerarii,' 'Sir J. J. Chalmers,' with Latin verses on Aberdeen citizens, and 'D. Laing,' calf extra, g.e., extremely rare, unknown to Lowndes. Paris, 1643."

I cannot trace this work in any library catalogue; nor do I even know whether the author is the George Chalmers of the "Sylva" or the Gulielmus Chalmers of the "Disputationes Theologicæ." Information is desired.

P. J. Anderson.

University Library, Aberdeen.

454. Gordon Monument at Haddo House.—Would some correspondent oblige with an exact transcript of the inscription on the obelisk erected within the grounds of Haddo House to the memory of Lieutenant-General Sir Alexander Gordon, who fell at Waterloo?

T. R.

455. John Robertson, Minister.—In the "Commissariot Record of Aberdeen" the testament or will is recorded, of date 25th July, 1734, of Mr John Robertson, "sometime minister at Finnylost, thereafter at Whitehouse of Cromar." Who was Robertson?

A. B.

456. Francis Shaw, Antiquarian.—Francis Shaw, of 40 Union Terrace, Aberdeen, aged 66, was buried in St Peter's Churchyard, on 27th January, 1885. I am informed that he did work for the Spalding Club, such as translating, etc. But who was he? and what literary work should be placed to his credit?

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

Answers.

439. The Twa Corbies.—This piece appears in Chambers's "Miscellany," thus—

As I gaed down by yon house-en',
Two corbies there were sitting their lane;
The tane unto the tother did say,
"Oh where shall we gae dine to-day."

"Oh down beside yon new fa'n birk.
There, there lies a new slain knight;
Nae living kene that he lies there,
But his horse, his hounds, and his lady fair.

His horse is to the hunting gane,
His hounds to bring the wild deer hame;
His lady's ta'en another mate,
So we may make our dinner sweet.

Oh we'll sit on his bonnie breast-bane,
And we'll pyke out his bonnie gray een;
Wi' ae lock o' his gowden hair,
We'll theek our nest where it blaws bare.

Mony a ane for him makes mane,
But nane shall ken where he is gane.
Owre his banes, when they are bare,
The wind shall blaw for evermair!"

Y.

440. Findochty Castle.—The Castle of Findochty—long the home of the ancient family of Ord—is now in ruins. It was built on the L principle, having a vaulted ground floor and entrance at the south end.

A. B.

444. Robert Duthie, Poet.—Duthie was born at Stonehaven on 2nd February, 1826. Having received a fair elementary education, he became an apprentice to his father, who was a baker. He subsequently taught a private school in Stonehaven. He died 4th January, 1865, in his 39th year His "Poems and Songs" were published posthumously.

R.

No. 104.—April 13, 1910.

The Lighting of Aberdeen.

Kennedy, in his "Annals," says that public lamps were introduced into Aberdeen in the year 1721, and that they were lighted for many years with rapeseed oil. In 1742 the number of these lamps was only 49, but some years afterwards an augmentation to 70 took place. The lamps were originally constructed of square lead or brass frames, filled up with common glass; but about 1751 crystal globes were introduced—the lighting property being altered to whale oil. There was no other light in the city until coal-gas was introduced into the houses and street lamps in 1823, the first gas-light company having been established in 1824.

According to Mr William Robbie ("Aberdeen: its Tradition and History") — In the houses of the middle and poorer classes a single tallow candle or a diminutive lamp, containing oil manufactured from whale blubber with a feeble rush or cotton wick, was all that was used. These emitted an offensive odour, and the light was so poor that it was impossible to work or read by it unless it was brought close to one's hand. As the street lamps were not a whit more effective, it may well be supposed that the general appearance of the town in winter, after nightfall, was dismal and depressing in the extreme.

Although Aberdeen and other towns had the advantage of gaslight about 80 years ago, it was not until 20 years later that the days of the oil and the fir were superseded by mineral oil. Naphtha was brought into use for light in country districts and burned in lamps made of tin, with a wick of swandown about 2½ inches broad and fixed between two pieces of tin and inserted amongst the oil and covered with a glass shade. This made a beautiful light, and was in much demand in country districts among tradesmen, in farmhouses, and cottages. But as the naphtha was very inflammable and dangerous, many were the accidents which occurred during its short stay of ten years or thereabout.

About 1850, Dr James Young, afterwards of Durris, founded the paraffin industry, the product of which is now almost universally used in every district where gas or electricity is not introduced.

James Smith.

Anthropological Museum, Marischal College.

Interesting Printing Indentures.

The two subjoined indentures, recently discovered in the Sheriff Court Records of Aberdeen, possess several features of interest. Their dates alone—16th November, 1744, and 6th April, 1749—the quaintness of their phraseology, and the nature of some of the conditions constitute them somewhat remarkable documents. Readers who are acquainted with the history of the "Aberdeen Journal" will be attracted to the indentures by the fact that the chief contracting partner, as employer, was Mr James Chalmers, printer in Aberdeen, the founder of the "Journal" and of the "Aberdeen Almanac." And no little interest attaches to the signatories to the first indenture, as showing the eminence attained by members of the Chalmers family—a family so long and worthily connected with the "Journal" and the city. Rev. Alexander Chalmers, minister of Marnoch, was the uncle of Mr James Chalmers, and the other cautioner, Rev. John Chalmers, Professor of Philosophy in King's College (he was afterwards Principal and D.D.), was Rev. Alexander Chalmers's son. It has been suggested that the fact of these two being cautioners indicates the possibility of a marriage connection having subsisted between the Chalmers family and the Forbesses at Belnaboth. Mr James Chalmers, the printer, was himself the son of a professor—Rev. James Chalmers, Professor of Divinity in Marischal College—so that the Lewis Chalmers who was a witness to this indenture was his brother:—

Att Aberdeen the sixteenth Day of November one thousand seven hundred and fourty four years It is Indented and Aggreed upon betwixt James Chalmers Printer in Aberdeen and Alexander Forbes Son to Arthur Forbes in Bellnaboth In the parish of Towie on the one and other parts In manner following vizt The said Alexander Forbes fies and Conduces himself As Apprentice and Servant to the said James Chalmers for learning the Art and trade of Printing and whole practise pertaining thereto, And that for the Space of Fife years from and after Martinmas last his Entry thereto, And for the foresaid Space he obliges him to Serve the said James Chalmers honestly and faithfully in his trade, As also when he knows his Masters prejudice or hurt to Reveal and make known the same to him and to hinder and Stop the same to the Outmost of his power, and not to make known any Secrets or business his Master Intrustith him with, To Attend and wait upon his Service week day and holy day and on no Account to Absent himself therefrom by night nor day without liberty Asked and Obtained And if he doe in the Contrair to Serve his Master two days for each Day he Absents, Or and in the Option of the said James Chalmers To pay to him half a merk Scots for each Absent day at the expireing of this Indenture, And to Abstain from Carding Dyeeing and Debauched Company and Immorality during his Apprenticeship, For whose honesty and fidelity sure Remaining at his Apprenticeship and performance of the premises the Reverend Mr Alexander Chalmers Minister of the Gospel at Marnoukirk and Mr John Chalmers Professor of Philosophy in the Kings Collidge of Aberdeen, Bind and Oblige them Communelly and Severallie As Cautioners and Suretys And on the other part the said James Chalmers Obliges him To teach learn and Instruct the said Alexander Forbes

In the said Art of Printing and everything Relative to it, To Conceal no part of his Business from his Apprentice But honestly to Discharge his duty to him in every thing relative thereto In sofar as he knows himself or his said Apprentice is Capable to Conceive, And to Mantain the said Alexander Forbes in bed board and washing dureing the foresaid Space, And Both parties oblige them to perform the Respective parts of the premises under the failure of Five pound Sterling by and att our performance, And Consent to the Registration hereof. In the books of Council and Session or any other Competent Register within this kingdom, To have the Strength of ane decreet That letters of horning on Six days and all other Execution necessary may pass thereupon In form as Effeirs And for that Effect they Constitute

Their Procurators &ca

In witnes whereof They have subscribed these presents (Written upon this Sheet of Stamped paper by John Mollison Servant to David Bartlet Advocate in Aberdeen) Place Day moneth and year of God Before written Before these Witnesses Lewis Chalmers Son to the Reverend Mr James Chalmers Professor of Divinity in Aberdeen & the said David Bartlet the day & month with the Witnesses Names & designations of the said Lewis Chalmers being filled up by the said David Bartlet. (Signed) Ja. Chalmers Alexr. Forbes Alexr.Chalmers Jo.Chalmers Lewis Chalmers Witness Dav:Bartlet witnes.

At Aberdeen this sixth day of Aprile One thousand seven hundred and fourty nine years It is appointed ended and agreed upon Betwixt James Challmers, Printer in Aberdeen on the one part and George Duncan, Meser [Messenger] in Aberdeen as taking the burden upon him and oblige him for Thomas Duncan his lawful son and the said Thomas Duncan for himself with consent of his said father on the other part in manner following that is to say the said Thomas Duncan hath feed and conduced himself as apprentice and servant to the said James Chalmers for learning the Art of Printing both at case and Press or any other thing the said James Chalmers may have occasion to employ his said apprentice in and that for the haill space of five full and compleat years from the said Thomas Duncan his entrey thereto is to be and begin at the term of Whitesunday next to come in this present year and so to continue for the said space of five full and compleat years thereafter the said Thomas Duncan with consent forsaid Binds and Oblidges him to readiely truely and faithfully serve the said James Challmers his master in the said art and vocasion and that he shall not absent himself in his said masters service night or day without leave asked and geven and if he does in the contrary he oblidges himself to servo his said master two days at the expireing of his apprenticeship for ilk days absence during the forsaid space or to pay to his said master six shilling eight pence Scots money for ilk days absence in his masters option and also he oblidges him not to devulge his said master his busieness or Secrets and no ways conceall his masters skaith by day or night but to make him forseeing thereof and to stop and let the same to his power and also to abstain from all cairding Dyeeing Debauched Company and all other such odious faults and if he fall in the sin of fornication (as God forbid) to renew his apprenticeship over again or to lose the benefiet of this present indenture in his masters option and for whose lawful behavieour due remaining at his service and for performing every point of the premises aforsaid the said George Duncan becomes Cautioner and Soverty for his said son and binds and oblidges himself for that effect: For which causes and on the other part the said James Challmers Binds and Oblidges himself to cause teach learn and instruct the said Thomas Duncan his apprentice in all things necessary or relating to the art and calling of printing in case and press or any other thing he may have occasion to employ his said apprentice in during the space forsaid as he shall have opportounity so far as he knows himself or as his said apprentice shall be able and capable conceave and to mantaine his said apprentice bed and board and to give him Twenty Shill: Sterling each year of his apprenticeship in name of Cloaths AND to Discharge ane honest duty thereannent to his said apprentice in everything as becomes dureing his said apprenticeship under the Failizie of Five pound Sterling money to be paid by the party breaker to the party performer or willing to perform & for the more security both parties are content and consents that ther presents be insert and registrate in the Books of Councell and Sesion or others competent to have the strength of ane Decreet that Letters of Horning on ten days and other exells [executorialls] needful may pass hereon in form as effeirs and constitutes
our Prors, to consent written be the said George Duncan the apprentice father upon this and the preceding page of stamped paper we have subd. [subscribed] these presents day and date forsaid before these witnesses John Sheriff, Vintner and James Sheriff his son both indwellers in Aberdeen.

(Signed) Ja: Chalmers.

(Signed) John Sheriff, Witness.

(,,) Thomas Duncan.

(,,) James Sheriff, Witness.

(,,) G. Duncan.

The First Bishop of America.

In No. 94—February 2, 1910—a few particulars were given respecting Samuel Seabury, D.D., along with an illustration of the tablet erected on the south side of Marischal College "by Churchmen of Connecticut to preserve the memory of the place in Longacre very near the spot, where, on the 14th November, 1784, Samuel Seabury, D.D., was consecrated the first Bishop of the Church in America."

A still older consecrated Bishop of America has been discovered in the person of Richard Welton, D.D., who, from 1697 to 1716, was Rector of Whitechapel, London. In the latter year he was "Deprived as a Jacobite and Non-juror." In 1722 he was raised to the Episcopate (62 years before the consecration of Bishop Seabury) by a small remnant of Non-juring Bishops in England. Proceeding to Philadelphia, he became incumbent of Christ parish and church, where a marble cenotaph commemorates him in the following inscription:—In memory of the earliest consecrated Bishop in America, Richard Welton, D.D., sometime Rector of Whitechapel, London, consecrated Bishop in the Non-juring Succession, A.D. 1722. Incumbent of this parish 1724-1726. Died in Lisbon, Portugal, 1726.

Dr Gammack explains that during the two years of Dr Welton's incumbency of Christ Church he was very popular, but that the authorities in England learning of his being advanced to the Episcopate, commanded him to leave the Colony, and that shortly after his doing so he died at Lisbon, as stated.

Christ Church was erected in 1727 upon the site of a still earlier one. Amongst the interesting and valuable relics it contains of the early settlers' days is a rare old Communion service preserved in the vestry, which was presented (in 1708) by "good" Queen Anne to the congregation who worshipped in the more ancient building. The graveyard has been used as such longer than any other in Philadelphia, and therein lie the mortal remains of many distinguished worthies, amongst them those of Banjamin Franklin. The spot where the latter was buried is marked by a flat body-stone upon the surface of which occurs the following simple inscription:—

BENJAMIN and DEBORAH } FRANKLIN, 1790.

—"Exeter Flying Post," February 26, 1910.

Robert Gordon, Xeres de la Frontera.

I have now discovered, through Colonel Helpman, a relative of the family, who this person was. He was the son of Cosmo Gordon (son of James Gordon of Beldorney), planter, Jamaica, of whom the Birnie MS. merely says that he settled in Jamaica and had issue, one son. Colonel Helpman tells me that he married a Jamaica lady (not a native), Miss Campbell, and had a "large family." The eldest son was Robert Gordon, who was educated at St Andrews. As he was born about 1763, he is probably the Robert Gordon who was at the United College in 1780. Robert married Letitia Rudyerd, and had—(1) Robert Henry John Huntly Gordon, of the Madras Infantry, baptised at Kew, October 6, 1797: died, March 1, 1878: (2) Maria del Rosario Ann Arthur Gordon, who married A. Macduff Baxter, Attorney-General of New South Wales.

J. M. BULLOCH.

Olympia Morata.

Having been engaged as a compositor on a reprint of Julius Bonnet's "Life of Olympia Morata," I became deeply interested in the brief career of that learned Protestant lady, who wrote Greek and Latin verse with facility; and when visiting Heidelberg in 1902 I searched for her tomb, for she died there on 26th October, 1555, aged 29. She was born in Ferrara, in Italy; her father, Fulvio Morata, who educated her, was an eminent professor there. Her talents brought her the friendship of the Duchess of Ferrara; but, on the death of her father and her adhesion to Protestantism, she was left in comparative penury. Eventually she married a German physician, Andreas Grunthler, and removed with him to Heidelberg, where he had the chair of medicine in the University. Their married life was brief and fraught with many vicissitudes, and only a short month after her decease, her husband, and younger brother, Emilio, both died of the plague.

I found the memorial to Olympia Morata in a side chapel of St Peter's Church, a venerable fabric. It is a small square tablet, with an inscription in Latin, and had evidently been restored by some friendly hand. It was placed rather high for the inscription to be read distinctly, but with the aid of a chair, which an old woman obligingly let me have the use of, I soon copied it. Outside this ancient church, which appears to have a round tower attached to it, like Brechin Cathedral, are the tombs of many eminent ecclesiastics and professors, all inscribed in German characters, difficult to read, and all gradually becoming obliterated by exposure to the elemental "sturm und drang." Many are now undecipherable; but Olympia's tablet being inside the church has led to its preservation. Memories of Luther, Melancthon, Reuchlin, and others, are associated with this fine old church.

ALBA.

Stamina of Men of Former Times.

The "Aberdeen Journal" of 10th September, 1823, in recording the death at Woodston, parish of St Cyrus, on the preceding Saturday, at the advanced age of 95, of James M'Hardie, furnishes the following supplementary particulars—

"He (M'Hardie) was a native of the parish of Crathie, where at the age of 15 he was privileged to carry arms after the custom of the time. A short period before the Rebellion, he was engaged by the clergyman, who was then called to St Cyrus, to come with him as footman; and he resided there during his long life, having seen four clergymen established in the parish. He was married about sixty years ago, and lived as husband and widower in the same house. In his younger days he paid an annual visit to his paternal mansion, setting out on Christmas morning, and after walking a

distance of 32 miles, he dined with his friends at Crathie, and spent the time in dancing and merriment till daylight next morning. During the Rebellion of 1746, he was employed to drive part of the Duke of Cumberland's luggage to Stonehaven. As a proof of his powers as a pedestrian, he was on one occasion sent on an express from St Cyrus to Old Aberdeen, whence he returned by eight o'clock the same day, having walked a distance of over seventy miles."

Inscriptions in St Andrew's Episcopal Church.

(Continued.)

There are six memorial brasses affixed to the wall of the chancel.

I.

† To the glory of God †
and
in memory of
Sarah Rachel Amelia,

daughter of Thomas George Suther, Bishop of this Diocese, / this plate is inscribed, and the Lectern of the Church dedicated as tokens / of love borne her by many friends for her untiring services to / Christ's poor and her loving zeal in the work of the Church.

† Died August 1st, 1889. †

Sarah Rachel Amelia Suther, who is thus commemorated, was the only daughter of Rev. Thomas George Suther, D.C.L., Bishop of Aberdeen. She died at 301 Union Street, Aberdeen, and her remains were buried in St Peter's Cemetery beside those of her mother, Catharine Fraser, who died at 62 Carden Place, Aberdeen, on 1st April, 1880, aged 63 years.

II.

Sacred to the beloved Memory of / James Chivas, J.P., merchant, / and for upwards of 40 years churchwarden of this church, / who died July 9th, A.D. 1885. / aged 75 years.

James Chivas, J.P., was a native of Cruden. He began business in the employment of Mr Edwards, grocer, King Street, after whose death he entered into partnership with Mr Charles Stewart, and founded the well-known firm of Stewart and Chivas. He took an active interest in the volunteer movement, and held a commission as captain in the volunteers. Like his brother, Alexander Chivas, banker, he was a staunch Episcopalian, of the school of the Skinners of Longside. Mr Chivas was a generous contributor to all Church schemes. He died at Bridge of Allan, and was survived by two married daughters and two sons, one of whom was a member of the firm of Messrs Chivas Brothers, King Street, Aberdeen. His wife, Joyce Clapperton, died at 2 Fountainhall Road, Aberdeen, on 16th June, 1904, aged 68. and was buried beside her husband in St Peter's Cemetery, Aberdeen, where a headstone is erected to their memory.

III.

Erected by their mother in loving memory of / Alex. J. C. Chivas, a Trustee of this Church. / Born April 25th. A.D. 1856. Died May 9th. A.D. 1893. / And of Julia A. Chivas, wife of J. C. Huxley, M.D., of Birmingham, born Decbr. 16th, A.D. 1854, died Septbr. 16th, A.D. 1893. / eldest son and daughter of James and Joyce Chivas.

Alexander John Clapperton Chivas, wine merchant, of the firm of Messrs Chivas Brothers, King Street, Aberdeen, was a son of James Chivas and Joyce Clapperton. His wife, Alyce Oliphant (eldest daughter of James Macaulay, inspector of taxes in Aberdeen, and Jane Collie), died at 2a Albyn Place, Aberdeen, on 12th May, 1893, aged 34 years, both being buried in Nellfield Cemetery, Aberdeen.

IV.

In pious and reverent memory of Christian Chivas, most worthy to be remembered for her remarkable munificence to the church she loved and liberality to the poor of the neighbouring city. This tablet was put up and inscribed by some of her friends, and beneficiaries, who wished to give enduring thanks to God most high for the faith and charity of his servant.

[Translated from Latin.]

V.

To the Glory of God and in dutiful memory of Alexander Chivas, a highly meritorious Treasurer of this Church. This memorial and a painted window in the Church were placed by C[hristian] Abercrombie, his relict, 1880.

[Translated from Latin.]

Alexander Chivas, who died at 89 Crown Street, Aberdeen, was a son of Alexander Chivas, manager of the Commercial Bank, Aberdeen, and his wife, Elizabeth Walker, and was born in 1798. He became a member of the Society of Advocates in 1821, and was appointed agent for the National Bank in 1833. He was also a Notary Public and a Justice of the Peace; trustee and lay representative of St Andrew's Episcopal Church; and a member of the Spalding Club. He was buried in St Clement's Churchyard, Aberdeen, where a headstone is inscribed—

Erected / by / Christian Abercrombie / in Memory of Her Husband, / Alexander Chivas, / Advocate and Banker, Aberdeen, / who died at Aberdeen, / on 21 Decr., 1871, aged 73 years. / Here also / are interred the remains of / Alexander Chivas, banker, Aberdeen, / and Elizabeth Walker, his wife. / Parents of the above Alexander Chivas. / And of / Jessie Walker, Christian Walker, / and Barbara Walker or Ohman, / Aunts of the above Christian Abercrombie, / and Alexander Chivas, her husband.

There is also interred here / the said Christian Abercrombie, / who died at Aberdeen on 14 Novr., 1878, / aged 77 years.

VI.

[Regimental motto and badge.]

In memory / of / Percy Smythe Shirres, / Lieutenant, 1st Battn. / East Lancashire Regiment, / Died 3rd December, 1892. / † Erected by Officers, N.C.O.'s, and Men / of the Regiment, who knew his real / worth, and who have sustained an / irreparable loss by his death.

Lieutenant Shirres, who died at Keppel Head Hotel, Portsmouth, was a son of Mr David Logan Shirres, Tullos House, Nigg, and brother of Lieutenant-Colonel John Chivas Shirres, D.S.O., R.A., who is commemorated by a tablet on the north wall of Nigg Parish Church. He is buried in Nigg Parish Churchyard, where a small granite cross enclosed with an iron railing is inscribed—

Erected in ever / Loving Memory of / Percy Smythe Shirres, / Lieutenant, / 1st Battalion East Lancashire Regiment. / Born 30th September, 1865. / Died 3rd December, 1892. / "He Giveth His Beloved Sleep."

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

(To be Continued.)

Convention of Estates Resolutions in 1625.

In 1625 the Convention of Estates of Scotland after consideration agreed (among other propoeals) to the following:—

. . touching an efficient general arming and drilling of the lieges, and a fortification of the coasts and harbours: carried into effect by (1) an ordinance of the Estates for a general Waponschawing throughout the realm on the 28th of December next, and a report on the deficiencies that may be so ascertained, with a view to revival of the old custom of annual Waponschawings and to constant readiness for resistance to threatened invasion, (2) recommendation to the Burghs represented in the Convention to see to the building of forts and block-houses in the ports, and to concur in that matter with Colonel Hay when he shall come into the country for visitation of the harbours. To this last was appended a humble request to his Majesty to send two ships from England for guarding the Firth of Forth.

Proposal D, respecting means to be taken for increasing the stock of coin in the kingdom—The Estates, finding that one of the chief causes of the scarcity of coin in Scotland is the importation of unnecessary foreign wares, and the exportation of native coin in purchase of the same as a mere article of commerce, ordain the Acts against those practices to be put in execution by the Privy Council, with requisite assistance from the Master of the Mint, but add a recommendation to enforce particularly the Acts against the sale of English Beer and the Baltic drink called "Sowens" at excessive prices. Moreover, as this subject of the coin cannot be "sumarly digested" at the present meeting, but requires "good advice and deliberation," the Estates nominate a Committee of eight Nobles of their number, three Prelates, eight of the small Barons, and representatives to be appointed by the Burghs of Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, and Glasgow, to meet with the Council on the last Council day of February next, for conference on the subject. . . . .—"Register of the Privy Council of Scotland," Second Series, I. xxxi.

Novel Advertisement.

That John Fraser, late, of Fraserburgh, who occasionally lost the use of his right hand, yet, for his livelihood, professes and prosecutes the following branches of business, at Aberdeen, in which he shall endeavour to deserve the encouragement of the publick, viz.—Making whips of all kinds, by a method more expeditious than formerly used, by which he can afford as good a pennyworth as any in Scotland. II. Drawing silver, copper, and brass-wire of all sizes. III. Catching moles, foxes and other vermin (in gardens and fields) that often frustrate the labours of the painful, and disappoint the industrious farmer. And as he is now engaged with a nobleman on Deeside, it is hoped the gentlemen in that neighbourhood who have their grounds infested with these noxious vermin will not neglect such a favourable opportunity of getting rid of them.—"Aberdeen Journal," April 11th, 1758.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1845.

1st January. At Cloghill, Lieutenant-Colonel William Grant, late of the Bombay Army.

29th January. At Forglen Manse, Rev. William Farquhar, minister of Forglen, aged 29.

28th January. At Peterculter, Rev. Robert Thomson, minister of the Free Church.

8th February. At Old Aberdeen, Mrs Forbes of Castleton.

26th February. At Old Aberdeen, William Shand, Esq., late of Arnhall.

4th March. At Aberdeen, the Hon. Mrs Lumsden of Balmedie.

27th February. At 7 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, Mrs Farquharson of Invercauld.

10th March. Here, George Leask, Esq., advocate.

7th March. At Charles Street, Cavendish Square, London, Charles Irvine, second son of the late Alexander Irvine, Esq. of Drum, aged 65.

9th March. At the Manse, Tarland, Rev. Andrew Watson, minister of Tarland and Migvie, in his 82nd year.

22nd March. At Powieden Cottage, near Gardenstown, at a very advanced age, Elspet, eldest daughter of the late Mr John Mackay (or Mackie), late manufacturer in Gardenstown, who came there from Edinburgh in the year 1758, and was the first person who introduced the trade of flax-dressing and flax hand-spinning in the district of Banffshire.

22nd March. At Oldmeldrum, Jane Morrison, aged 73, relict of Mr James Forbes, factor for General Gordon, etc.

4th April. Here, Alexander Rainnie, builder.

3rd April. Mrs Bowman of Gayfield, near Montrose, third daughter of the late Sir Alexander Gordon, Bart., and Lady Gordon, Lesmoir Castle.

18th April. At the Manse, Forglen, Mrs William Farquhar.

1st May. Here, Marjory, second daughter of the late John Dyce, Esq. of Tillygreig, aged 82.

25th April. At Moreseat, near Aberdeen, Mr John Strachan, in his 77th year.

3rd May. At Stonehaven, Margaret Leith, aged 74, spouse of Alexander Gordon, Esq. of Newhall.

1st June. At Thainston, Isabella, last surviving daughter of Alexander Seton of Mounie, Esq.

31st May. In London, Mrs Elizabeth Forbes, aged 94, widow of Benjamin Forbes, son of Lachlan Forbes of Edinglassie, Strathdon, who, having joined Prince Charles Edward in 1745, was wounded at the battle of Culloden, and following that Prince to France, was made a captain in the Scottish Grenadier Regiment of Lord Ogilvy and a Chevalier de St Louis.

8th June. Here, James Hadden, Esq. of Persley, in his 88th year.

12th June. At 5 Union Place, Adam Gray, Esq. of Fingask.

9th June. Here Mrs Jean Reid, relict of Mr Lachlan M'Kinnon, Shipmaster in Aberdeen.

24th June. At 48 Union Place, aged 16, George Robertson Gordon, eldest son of the late Rev. Maxwell Gordon, Minister of Foveran.

4th July. At Aberdeen, James Staats Forbes, aged 80.

23rd June At Footdee, Rev. William Smith, in his 79th year.

13th July. At the Manse, Banchory-Devenick, Rev. George Morison, D.D. Minister of that parish and father of the Church of Scotland, in the 88th year of his age and 63rd of his ministry.

9th July. Jane, second daughter of Rev. Dr Mearns, and wife of Professor Scott, King's College.

19th July. Here, John Innes Hadden, aged 33, youngest son of the late James Hadden, Esq of Persley.

19th July. Here, at 41 Huntly Street, John Innes, Architect, aged 45.

13th August. At Fordyce, aged 75, Mr William Cruickshank, parish schoolmaster, for the long period of 44 years . . .

28th August. At Ramsgate, Barbara Gordon, of No. 3 Hyde Park Terrace, Kensington Gore, relict of John Gordon of Newton.

8th September. At 64 Bon-Accord Street, William Gordon, aged 19, second son of James Giles, R.S.A.

31st August. At the Manse, Tullynessle, Miss Lumsden, only surviving daughter of the late Rev. Robert Lumsden, sometime Minister of Newmachar, aged 87.

18th September. At Stonehaven, Dr James Moncur.

21st September. At Banff, Mr Charles Watt, Solicitor there, in his 34th year.

27th September. At Stonehaven, William Duthie, Esq., Arduthie, aged 76.

3rd November. At 3 Union Place, William Tower, Esq. of Kinaldie, in his 80th year.

9th November. At Galleries, Rev. George Glennie, D.D., Professor of Moral Philosophy and Logic in Marischal College, and for many years Minister of the West Church, Aberdeen, in his 78th year.

13th November. At Villafield, near Aberdeen, Mr John Watt, Manufacturer, aged 57.

12th October. On his passage from Mauritius to Ceylon, Sir William Reid, Bart. of Barra.

14th December. In her 82nd year, Elizabeth, widow of John Hutchison, Esq. of Cairngall.

25th December. At Schoolhouse, Bourtie, Ann Reid, wife of Rev. James Mearns.

Queries.

457. Coronation of George III.—Turreff in his "Antiquarian Gleanings" (p. 252) records, in connection with the celebration of the Coronation at Aberdeen, that in the Marischal College Hall there was performed by the Musical Society an anthem, the music of which was composed by Mr Francis Peacock, dancing master, a principal member of the society. Does any copy of the anthem exist, and, if so, where?

Musicus.

458. Colour-Sergeant Donald Henderson, 79th Regiment.—Henderson was buried in St Peter's Cemetery, Aberdeen, 16th February, 1843. He was 35 years of age. What engagements (if any) did he take part in?

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

459. Scottish Proverbs.—In what work could I find a reliable list of old Scottish proverbs?

G. Y.

460. Gregor Willox, Warlock, or Witch Doctor.—Readers who have information or references regarding Willox might please communicate with the Editor.

Answers.

435. Stewarts in Banffshire.—Duncan Stewart in his "Genealogical Account" of the surname of Stewart, published in 1739, had no certain information regarding the origin of these families. At p. 211 he says—"I'm informed there is a Stewart of Bogs or Rosyburn in the Boyne, and Stewart of Ordense, thought to be come of Evandale, ancestor to my Lord Down." At p. 213 he says—"Stewart of Auchluncart, brother to Tannachy, came off Kilmachly; as did Stewart of Bogs in Enzie." Jervise's "Epitaphs," I., p. 199, might be consulted.

R.

442. The Ledingham Family.—Persons bearing the name of Ledingham (and Liddinghame) were settled in Aberdeenshire before the 16th century. Ledingham is a "place" name, derived from the "leading home" of a district.

G.

444. Robert Duthie, Poet.—Duthie was born in Stonehaven in 1826, and taught in a school for a time. His father was a baker, and died, leaving a widow and young family. The author then gave up teaching to help his mother with the business, at which he continued until his death on 4th January, 1865. Mr Duthie took much interest in Stonehaven, and was one of those who formed an Association of Feuars, for the improvement of the town. He was an active member of this body, and acted as "town clerk" under it. After Mr Duthie's death a volume of his poems was published in 1886, at the "Stonehaven Journal" Office. Mr Duthie compiled a Genealogical Table of the ancestors, descendants, and collateral relatives of Burns, published in Ballantine's chronicle of the centenary birthday of that poet. This table is a most valuable and creditable production, and appears to have been much used by subsequent biographers.

R. T. M.

No. 105.—April 20, 1910.

The Origin of the Gordon Highlanders.

From a fragmentary MS. history of the Gordon family, which the late Provost Black prepared for a new edition of Lachlan Shaw's "Moray," I learn that Mr William Alexander (of Gushetneuk fame?) wrote an article in the "Bath Herald" (of what date?), containing what is to me a new story about the raising of the Gordon Highlanders. It is stated that Jane Maxwell "made a large bet with the Prince of Wales that she would raise a whole regiment of Highlanders in four months if he would appoint her son, the Marquis of Huntly, its colonel." She managed to do so, and "gained her bet, which was said to have been sufficient to repay her for the expense of forming the regiment." It is interesting to note that Mr Alexander was under no delusion about all the recruits being got for nothing. He does not jettison the kiss story, but he supplements it adroitly with the part played by money bounties. He says—"It is quite a true story that the Duchess recruited in person on horseback at markets on the Gordon estates, wearing a regimental jacket and bonnet, and offering for recruits the irresistible bounty of a kiss and a guinea. . . The writer was told by his father that he and his brothers were at a market in Huntly when the Duchess was there enlisting men for her son's regiment. As the time was drawing near when she had engaged to complete the enrolment, she was giving large bounties to recruits. She offered the writer's two uncles £40 each to enlist, which they declined. The same day the following well-known event occurred. The Duchess offered £40 bounty to a handsome young man to enlist. He declined the £40, but said—'If your grace will allow me to kiss you, I will enlist without any other bounty,' thus offering £40 for a kiss of the beautiful Duchess. 'Come along, my lad,' answered the Duchess, and, throwing her arms round his neck, kissed him in the presence of hundreds of people." I may add that Provost Black's MS., which is confined to an account of the Earls of Huntly, is now in possession of his son, Mr W. Rose Black, Elgin, who has been good enough to let me peruse it.

J. M. Bulloch.

A Local Hurricane.

The "Aberdeen Journal" of 6th March, 1805, records—

Last Thursday morning, about four o'clock, there came on here one of the most violent gales of wind which we have known in this country since the year 1773. It began on Wednesday evening to blow pretty strong from W.N.W., but not violently till a little before four on Thursday morning, when it increased to a hurricane, and continued to blow in a kind of whirlwind for about half an hour. We have received accounts from various quarters of the mischief done by this gale, the principal of which are the following:—The beautiful steeple of the Parish Church of St Cyrus, from a design of Adams, which was universally admired as a kind of miniature of the steeple of Bow Church in London, is blown down. A house in Tannery Street, in which were ten families, fell to the ground so instantaneously that the inhabitants could barely escape with their lives. A great part of the beautiful garden wall at Foresterhill, belonging to Mr Hogarth, was levelled to the ground. In the village of Auchinblae almost every house was unroofed, most of them being thatched. A whale fishing boat lying near our harbour was lifted up in the air and dashed in pieces. An immense number of trees have been blown down in the woods of Binghill, at Crichie, and in various other places. . . .

Oyne Kirk-Session Extracts with Notes.

"1664, November 5. The sd. day, Robert Duncane, collector, did regraite yat ther was some unpassable money in the poors box, yrfor, he is ordained to look qt money did not passe, and give an account yrof the next day, and yrefter to be compatible for qt he receaved."

"November 12. Anent unpassable money the collector reported yat ther wer five groats and fore-and-forty penny peices yat would not passe."

[At this time the Scotch currency was in a very unsatisfactory state, some coins of the realm, previously struck by Royal Licence of the impecunious Stewart monarchs, having become practically worthless, from the amount of alloy which they contained. In addition to the home spurious supply, a good deal of base foreign money was imported by traders. Evidently the congregation of Oyne took the opportunity of disposing of theirs by way of the poor's box, a method which has not even yet altogether passed into desuetude.]

"1672, May 26. The sd. day, Robert Morgan was admitted schoolmaster and clerk to the sessione, for the ensueing half-yeare, from the date of thir presents, and for public reading and precenting in the church for qch foure bolls of victuals is to be payd to him off the parieche, with ten pound of money from the sessione, and the ordinary colledge fee, for teaching of such children as shall happen to come to him during the said space."

"1673, March 16. The minister and elders, considering how God's worship was molested by dogs in the church, desired the collector to cause mak ane dog-clip."

"March 23. John Meldrum, the collector, declared that he had causse mak ane dog-clip, and delivered it to the officer, and it was ap-

pointed that ane of the elders, viz., Patrick Martaine, should waite on the next Lord's day, between the second and third bell, and cause thos who brought dogs to the church with them, either themselves or ther servants, to tak the clip and draw them to the church styll, and it was ordained that those who disobeyed to do so should be caused satisfie as occasioners of sabbath-breaking."

[The practice of bringing dogs to church was then universal all over the Highlands, and caused no little annoyance to minister and congregation alike. Almost every householder had a dog, some two or three, and all were allowed to accompany their masters to worship. Where so many of the canine species were collected, melees, in which almost every dog joined, were, of course, inevitable, the service not only being interrupted, but the limbs of the hearers endangered. Of course, the dog-owners endeavoured to restore order, but sometimes even the united efforts of twenty men, vigorously plying cudgels, failed to restore order within moderate limits of time. In some cases a man, armed with a sort of long-handled forceps, was appointed to patrol the churchyard before worship, and with this weapon nip and wound the tails, legs, and ears of the dogs, by which means it was expected to clear the sacred edifice and its precincts of their unwelcome company. Compared with this, the method adopted at Oyne was mild and commendable.]

"1678, November 28. The sd. day, John Henrie was elected kirk-officer for the ensuing half-yeare, and was ordained to get foure merks, and two pair of shoes, in the foresaid time, with the other casualties belonging to him, viz., six shillings eight pennies for every marriage, three shillings foure pennies for every baptisme, thretteine shillings foure pennies for every burial, and three shillings foure pennies for every one he charged to the public place of repentance."

[It will, of course, be understood that the currency mentioned in these extracts is Scots money, one pound Scots corresponding in value to one shilling and eightpence sterling.]

"1674, January 13. The collector ordained to causse mak ane caisse to the sandglasse."

[This entry reminds us that these were not the days of clocks and watches; time in this case, as in many others, being kept by a sand-glass, which probably ran for an hour. Long services were also the order of the day, and the minister had to keep his eye on the glass, turning it when it ran empty, a function which he would have to perform more than once at each diet of worship. In connection with the sand-glass a humorous story is told of a Perthshire clergyman. A wealthy family in this reverend gentleman's congregation, invited him to dinner on Saturday night, with the intention of making him so drunk that he would not be able to conduct service on the following day. During the course of the evening the minister repeatedly intimated his intention of departing but his kind entertainers insisted upon his staying, exclaiming, "Another glass, and then—" After they had succeeded in getting him to drink what they considered sufficient for their purpose, he was allowed to depart, and get home somehow. On the following day the whole family repaired to church in order to witness the success of their plot. To their surprise the minister appeared none the worse for his previous night's carouse, and, placing the hour glass on the pulpit beside him, began service as usual. When the sand ran down, he turned the time-measure, exclaiming, "Another glass, and then—"; and this he continued to do until he had given them as many "glasses" as they had imposed upon him on the previous evening.]

"1687, July 10. Intimation made by a print order read, that none should resett or give maintenance to no vagabonds, nor sturdie beggars, but that those who are really indigent be maintained within their own respective parishes to whom they belong."

"July 31. The parson did publickly inhibite the people not to resett, harbour, nor entertain the Egyptians (so called), but in particular the people in Pitmachie, otherwayes, he told them, they might come to further trouble."

[These edicts were evidently meant to alleviate in some measure the pest of sturdy beggars, gipsies, and vagrants of all kinds that then swarmed over the country at large, but it is doubtful if they were productive of any very good effect.]

"1701, March 23. The session taking into their consideration the horrid abuses that are committed at penny brydals, to the great dishonour of God, and scandall off the Christian religion; considering, also, that the use of Bagpypers does in a great measure occasion that laciviousness and unchristian carriage which is common at marriage feasts, did therfor forbid the same, and whosoever contraveens this enactment, forfeits their pledges."

[There appears little doubt that a good deal of unbecoming behaviour marked the celebration of penny weddings, which lasted for days, and to which hosts of guests came. These latter had always to pay a certain amount of money, the residue of which, after defraying the expenses of the feast, was generally devoted to furnishing the house of the newly-wedded pair. Numerous efforts were made to put them down, but it was found impossible to suppress them. Restrictions were then placed upon the amount allowed to be given, the maximum in Scotland being fixed at five shillings. Dr Brewer states they were abolished in 1645. He does not state whether or not England alone is indicated, but if otherwise, he is most certainly wrong, for penny weddings continued to be held in Scotland up to the beginning of last century, their final disappearance being due, not to extraneous interference, but to a change of public custom.]

David Grewar.

Inscriptions in St Andrew's Episcopal Church, Aberdeen.

(Continued.)

There are three memorial windows in the chancel, with inscriptions at base:—

I.

To the Glory of God and in pious memory of their / Parents, Brothers and Sisters, and of Joyce, Widow of / Wm. Clapperton, Surg., R.N. This window is given / by James Chivas and Joyce, his wife. Easter, 1882.

II.

To the Glory of God and in / pious memory of Alexander Chivas, / Advocate in Aberdeen, / Born 1793, died 22nd December, 1871.

III.

To the Glory of God and in affectionate memory of Alexander / Pirie of Stoneywood, sometime Trustee of this Church, / who died Novr. 20th, 1875, and of Charlotte Anne Lindsay, his wife, / who died Sep. 13th, 1882. This window is dedicated by their son.

Alexander Pirie, above commemorated, who died at Dresden, was the third son of Mr Alexander Pirie of Waterton, and of his wife, Ann Logie, daughter of Francis Logie, proprietor of Middlefield, Woodside. He was the senior partner of Messrs Alexander Pirie and Sons, paper manufacturers, while his wife was a daughter of Colonel Martin Lindsay, of the 78th Highlanders. A wall monument in St Peter's Cemetery, Aberdeen, is inscribed—

Alexander Pirie,
Born 15th March, 1812.
Died 20th November, 1875.
And his wife, Charlotte Anne Lindsay,
Died 13th September, 1882.

"He that believeth in me hath everlasting life."
St John, vi. Chap., 47 Verse.

Alfred Lindsay Pirie.
Born 28th November, 1853.
Died 15th July, 1883.

"If thou shouldst call me to resign
What most I prize, it ne'er was mine;
I only yield thee what is thine.
Thy will be done."

Fanny Ann Pirie.
Born 8th September, 1850.
Died 7th June, 1901.

"Life's work well done,
Life's race well run,
Life's goal now won.
Rest in peace."

Miss Fanny Ann Pirie died at Countesswells House, near Aberdeen, on the date mentioned. A cross within the same enclosure bears—

Alexander Pirie.
"Fervent in Spirit serving
the Lord."

Mr Alexander Pirie's (1812-1875) youngest brother was Gordon Pirie (1825-1901), whose inscriptions have already been quoted; and his eldest brother, Patrick (born 1806, died 2nd January, 1886), afterwards Patrick Pirie Gordon, has inscriptions to his family and relatives recorded on two wall monuments adjoining in St Peter's Cemetery, Aberdeen. They are inscribed respectively—(1) Jane Logie, wife of John Putnam, died 12th January, 1850, aged 69 years; Elizabeth Logie, died 20th May, 1850, aged 72; John Putnam, died 17th March, 1856, aged 72. (2) Children of Patrick and Anne Pirie Gordon — Alexander John, died 2nd March, 1838, aged 6 months; Katherine, died 5th Novr., 1853, aged 14 years; Patrick William, died in infancy, 26th September, 1855; Francis Charles, died in infancy. [For further particulars of the famous mercantile "Pirie" see Temple's "Thanage of Fermartyn," and Morgan's "Annals of Woodside and Newhills."]

The altar pedestal in St Andrew's bears a Latin inscription, translated thus—

To the Glory of God. In memory of the very deeply regretted Thomas G[eorge] Suther, Bishop of Aberdeen, and of Catharine, his wife, and of their sons, Melville and James and Russell. Christ have mercy on them.

The altar also bears a Latin inscription on left and right side, which, reading from the left side, translated, bears—

In memory of a very reverend man, Thomas George Suther, Doctor of Civil Law, who for 26 years (1857-1883) was Bishop of the Diocese of Aberdeen, and at the same time Pastor of this Church for 24 years (1855-1879). His friends caused the erection of this monument—consecrated with religious ceremonies—as a mark of his care and dutifulness and of their regard for his loss. Born 1814, died 1883.

Bishop Thomas George Suther was the son of P. Suther, M.D., Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets, who served under Lord Nelson at the Battle of Trafalgar. Although born in Edinburgh (in 1814), the Bishop's youth was spent in Nova Scotia with his maternal grandparents, and he received his education at King's College, Windsor, in that colony, where he graduated A.B. in 1836. Returning to Scotland, he was ordained deacon in 1837, and priest in 1838 by the Bishop of Edinburgh, as curate to Dr Russell, Bishop of Glasgow, who was also incumbent of St James's Episcopal Church, Leith; and was appointed to the important charge of St George's, Edinburgh, which he occupied from 1838 to 1856. In 1852, his own University conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws. On the death of Bishop Torry in 1852, Dr Suther was nominated by the clergy of St Andrews, Dun-

keld, and Dunblane for the bishopric of their diocese, but he was defeated by Wordsworth by a majority of one. But in 1857, after succeeding Bishop William Skinner (born 1778; died 1857) as incumbent of St Andrew's Church, Aberdeen, he was elected by the clergy of the Diocese of Aberdeen to the Bishopric of Aberdeen and Orkney. He resigned his position, owing to ill-health, on 13th February, 1879, to the general regret of the congregation. Through his energies the large and flourishing day schools were established. He died at San Remo, 23rd January, 1883, and was buried there. Bishop Suther was author of a "Lecture to Working Men" (Aberdeen, 1860) and "An Account of the Sisterhood of S. Margaret" (Aberdeen, 1874). A lengthy and appreciative obituary of him appeared in the "Free Press," 24th January, 1883; and several references to him appear in the late Mr William Carnie's "Reporting Reminiscences," Vols. I. and II. Bishop Suther, who married Catharine Fraser, had the following issue—

(1) Melville; who is mentioned on altar pedestal.

(2) James Benjamin Fraser, born at Edinburgh, 25th August, 1840; died at Patea, New Zealand, 10th March, 1870. (See obituary notice in the "Daily Free Press," Friday, 27th May, 1870.) He was M.B., C.M., 1862 (Johnston's "Roll of Graduates of the University of Aberdeen," p. 535); also L.R.C.S.E. He is mentioned on altar pedestal.

(3) Michael Russell; who died young. There is a memorial erected to his memory on the east side of the church—already quoted.

(4) Sarah Rachel Amelia; who died at Aberdeen, 1st August, 1869, and was buried in St Peter's Cemetery, Aberdeen. A brass tablet to her memory has already been quoted.

It may be mentioned that it was principally by the exertions of Bishop Suther's wife that there was opened about 1858, in a shop in King Street, a girls' school in connection with St Andrew's, which soon attained to such proportions as to necessitate removal to larger premises. Its successor is now in a flourishing condition.

The above interesting memorial to Bishop Suther was designed by Mr Arthur Clyne, architect, Aberdeen, and was executed by Mr Hems, sculptor, Exeter.

The most striking feature of the chancel is its magnificent east window of five lights, filled with stained glass; colouring by Messrs John Hardman and Co., Birmingham. The inscriptions at the base of each light are in Latin. These may be translated thus—

I.

To the Glory of God, and in pious memory of Samuel Seabury, who in this city was consecrated a bishop in 1784. He was the first bishop of the American Church. He died in 1796.

Full particulars of Bishop Seabury will be found in the "Seabury Centenary Report" and Dean Walker's "Life and Times of John Skinner."

II.

John Skinner, Bishop of Aberdeen and Primus. He died A.D. 1816. Erected by many of the office-bearers of the church zealous for its liberty.

Bishop John Skinner (1744-1816) was the father of Bishop William Skinner (1778-1857), mentioned below. Particulars of his ministry have already been given.

III.

Robert Kilgour, Bishop of Aberdeen and Primus. He died A.D. 1790. Erected by R. B. Horne, 1880.

Bishop Robert Kilgour (third son of Robert Kilgour, litster at Waukmill of Cruden, and Isobel Barron, his wife) was consecrated Bishop of Aberdeen at Cupar-Fife, 21st September, 1760, and Bishop of Edinburgh and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church in 1762. He married Margaret Arbuthnot, daughter of Baillie Thomas Arbuthnot, of Peterhead; and had by her five daughters, all of whom married. She died 22nd February, 1805, aged 84 years. Bishop Kilgour himself died on 22nd March, 1790, aged 76. For further particulars see "'Aberdeen Journal' Notes and Queries," Vol. II. (1909), p. 262; and Temple's "Thanage of Fermartyn," pp. 208-209.

IV.

Arthur Petrie, Bishop of Moray. He died A.D. 1787. Erected by many office-bearers mindful for the church.

Bishop Petrie, born in the parish of Forgue in 1732, was the son of Colin Petrie in Auchintender, Forgue, and his wife, Isabella Alexander, a sister of Bishop Alexander in Alloa. He died, unmarried, on 19th April, 1787, and was buried in Dunbennan Churchyard, where there is on his tombstone a Latin inscription from the pen of John Skinner. He took part in the consecration of Bishop Samuel Seabury.

For further particulars of his life and labours in the ministry see Jervise's "Epitaphs and Inscriptions," II., 378; 1st Series "Scottish Notes and Queries," Vol. XI., 167; Temple's "Thanage of Fermartyn," p. 67; and Dean Walker's "Life and Times of John Skinner."

V.

William Skinner, Bishop of Aberdeen and Primus. He died A.D. 1857. Erected by John Smith.

William Skinner, Bishop of Aberdeen (born 24th October, 1778; died 25th April, 1857), was the second son of the Right Reverend John Skinner (1744-1816). He married (as stated in my first instalment of inscriptions of St Andrew's Episcopal Church) Johanna Brand, youngest daughter of James Brand, cashier of the Aberdeen Banking Company.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary.
1846.

20th January. At Stonehaven, Hugh Fullerton, Esq., Sheriff-Substitute of Kincardineshire.

22nd January. At 26 Bon-Accord Terrace, Mrs Wilson Nicolson of Glenbervie, aged 79, youngest daughter of the late Sir William Nicolson of Glenbervie, Bart., and relict of Rev. James Wilson, Minister of Farnell.

16th February. At Fintray House, Sir John Forbes, Bart., of Craigievar, aged 60.

15th February. At 33 Castle Street, Janet Forbes, eldest daughter of the late Sir William Forbes, Bart., of Craigievar, and relict of Alexander Forbes, Esq.

3rd March. At 3 Skene Place, Mrs Jean Glennie, widow of Dr Knight, Professor of Natural Philosophy in Marischal College.

6th March. At Duncanstone, Leslie, Rev. D. Morrison, in his 77th year.

9th March. At Torryburn Cottage, Kintore, Rev. Theodore Rainy, A.M., in his 75th year. . . .

16th March. At Tillydaff, Midmar, John Urquhart, farmer, aged 89.

18th March. At Garvock, Robert Graeme, Esq. of Garvock.

21st March. At Banff, Peter Cameron, Esq., solicitor, late Provost of Banff, aged 82.

4th April. At 6 Forbes Street, in his 35th year, James Richard Reid, A.M., late parish schoolmaster, Footdee.

31st March. At Smithston, John Gardiner, Esq., aged 75.

10th April. At Park of Balmedie, Belhelvie, Rev. Francis Hay, many years schoolmaster of the parish, aged 58.

19th April. At Lord Campden's residence of Portman Square, London, the Earl of Erroll.

14th April. At 16 Skene Street, Caesar Altria, Optician, aged 90.

11th April. At Milton of Edinglassie, Strathdon, Mr John Tawse, farmer, aged 99.

2nd May. At 26 Constitution Street, Catherine M'Pherson, relict of William Hay, Esq. of Hayfield, aged 47.

3rd March. At Ardoch, Rev. Lachlan M'Intosh, Catholic Priest of Gairnside. He had sat for 64 years on the side of the Cairn, a faithful Catholic Pastor, watching over his flock, and labouring hard for their eternal salvation. . . . He had reached the age of 94, and has left behind him at Ardoch two sisters, one 96 and the other 91.

9th May. At Archiestown, Knockando, Miss Marian Grant, youngest daughter of the late Ludovick Grant, Esq. of Lettoch, aged 82.

5th June. At Bruchead of Invery, Banchory-Ternan, Rev. James Stewart, minister of Free South Church, Aberdeen, aged 33.

13th June. At 112 Crown Street, George Taylor, Esq., late manufacturer, aged 57.

13th June. At Artrochie, Logie-Buchan, Alexander Falconer, Esq., in his 81st year.

25th February. At Savoch School, in her 42nd year, Christian Johnston, wife of James Mair, Parochial Schoolmaster. On 19th May, at same place, in her 25th year, Jane Watson, his niece. On 4th June, at same place, in her 79th year, Elspet Johnston, his mother-in-law, and on 17th June, at same place, in her 21st year, Catherine Burnett, his third daughter.

21st June. At Park House, Alexander Low, Esq. of Altries, late Merchant in Aberdeen, in his 71st year.

5th July. At Peterhead, Robert Alexander, Esq., Surgeon, H.E.I.C.S., aged 51.

14th July. At Banff, George Dawson, Esq., Solicitor, aged 72.

7th August. Here, James Bentley, Esq., Professor of Oriental Languages in King's College, in his 74th year.

11th August. At Newhaven, suddenly, George Reid, senior, Druggist, Aberdeen.

2nd August. In Grosvenor Square, London, Mrs Udny of Udny.

14th August. At Banchory, John Thom of Hillbrae, aged 20.

17th August. At Aberdeen, Margaret Lumsden, aged 84, widow of George Still, Esq. of Millden.

15th August. At Linton, Mrs Anne Burnet Craigie of Linton, widow of Dr Jonathan Craigie.

2nd September. At Mackie Place, Mrs Boyd, relict of Rev. William Boyd, Minister of Crimond.

4th September. At Drumblair, John R. Thain, in his 54th year.

6th September. At Schoolhouse, Echt, William Malcolm, in his 78th year.

11th September. At Monymusk, Isabella Fullerton, in her 102nd year.

23rd September. At 2 Alford Place, Miss Jane Gordon of Nethermuir.

26th September. Mr Alexander Rae, aged 93, many years Schoolmaster at Peterculter.

2nd October. At the Manse, Fintray, in her 69th year, Jane Davidson, spouse of Rev. John Leslie, Minister of that parish.

11th October. At 1 Albyn Place, Mary Carnegie, relict of William Robertson, Esq., M.D., younger of Foveran, in her 72nd year.

16th September. At 246 George Street, James Gordon, Teacher, son of the late Nathaniel Gordon, Manufacturer, Rippachy, Strathdon, aged 37.

19th October. At the Manse, Kinneff, Margaret, daughter of Rev. Dr Mearns, King's College, aged 26.

25th October. At the Schoolhouse, Meuhlick, George Pirie, Surgeon.

14th November. At Insch, Harry Henderson, Esq., Surgeon.

14th November. At Mugiemoss, Mrs Agnes Morison, aged 74, relict of Mr C. Davidson, Manufacturer.

17th December. At his house, Chapel Street, William Collie, Bookseller.

15th December. At Portsoy, Rev. Andrew Ritchie, Incumbent of Episcopal Church, Forgue, aged 92.

12th December. At Academy Street, Elgin, Mr Charles Smith, late Paper Manufacturer at Stoneywood, aged 80.

22nd December. At Aberdeen, Alexander Stewart, Esq., of Inchbreck, aged 52.

30th December. At Oldmeldrum, in her 73rd year, Margaret Diana Knight, relict of John Manson, Esq. of Kilblean.

Queries.

461. Lynevore.—Betty Gordon, Mill of Laggan, "married Lynevore, 'a bridegroom stoot full sixty oot,' as Josie Watt sang in some vulgar verses not worth remembering." Is any reader vulgar enough to remember and send them to me?

J. M. Bulloch.

118 Pall Mall, London, S.W.

462. Notices as to the City of Aberdeen. by Alexander Mann.—This work was published about 1770. Where could I see a copy?

R. G. A.

463. Major John Gordon, Deeside Highlanders.—He died at Medhurst, Great Malvern, on February 25, 1892. Who was he?

J. M. Bulloch.

464. The Lifeboat.—When were lifeboats introduced?

Fraserburgh.

465. Mr John Gordon of Craigmyle.—This gentleman became an actor in 1873, and left the stage in 1881. Can any reader tell me what plays he appeared in? In 1881-91 he took a ballet troupe through the United Kingdom, and also to Holland, Belgium, and Germany. Did he ever visit Aberdeen professionally?

J. M. Bulloch.

Answers.

450. George Davidson.—The "Aberdeen Journal" obituary column of 15th May, 1872, bears that Mr Davidson died at Loirsbank, Cults, on the 10th of that month, aged 66 years. A separate appreciative notice of Mr. Davidson appears in the same issue. C.

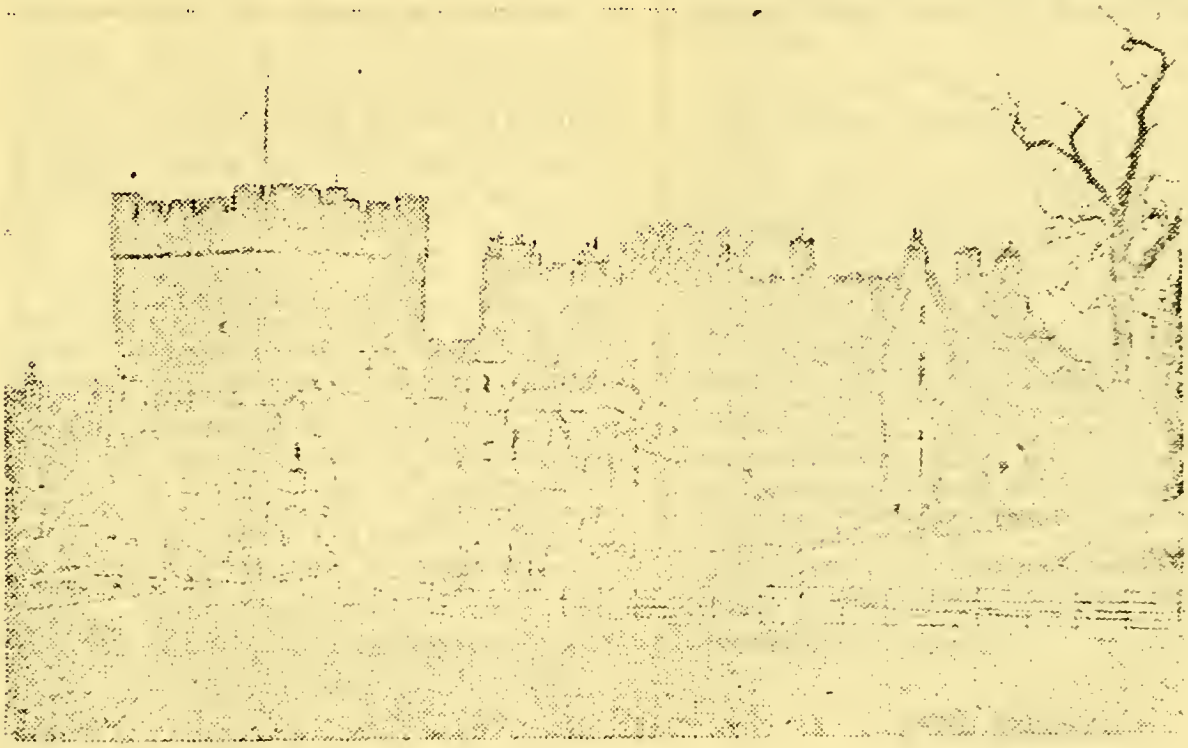
455. John Robertson, Minister.—Robertson was for some time schoolmaster of Strathdon, and, on 24th July, 1681, was ordained minister of that parish. He was deposed in 1717 for having, during the 1715 rebellion, prayed for the Pretender. The following cautious limitations in the prayer did not save the minister—"that God would incline his [the Pretender's] heart to be that of a true Protestant, and if it were God's will He would bring to the throne him who was lawfull heir to our native kings, and if not, that God would be pleased to incline him to set his heart upon ane Heavenly kingdome." D.

459. Scottish Proverbs.—The following works might be consulted:—"A Collection of Scots Proverbs" by Allan Ramsay (Edin., 1797); "Scottish Proverbs," collected and arranged by Andrew Henderson; new edition by James Donald (Glasgow, 1881).

A.

A list of some 700 good old Scottish proverbs, and a similar number of English proverbs, will be found in Chambers's "Miscellany," Vol. XX. Y.

No. 106.—April 27, 1910.



Drum Castle.

An interesting article on the ancient and picturesque Castle of Drum, Aberdeenshire, the seat of the equally ancient family of the Irvines of Drum (see No. 59—June 2, 1909), appears in the April number of the "Scottish Field." It is written by Mr Alexander Mackie, Aberdeen, who thus describes the Castle—

The Castle is not a compact block, like a modern building, but a delightful congeries of quaint turrets, with many nooks and intricate corners, small doors, tiny windows, and narrow corridors, but solid and substantial withal, and at every angle filled with the charm which great age alone can give. Its most conspicuous feature is, of course, the great oblong tower. This notable structure is in a manner unique. Its grim and stalwart solidity, devoid of all ornamentation, is unusually impressive. Built, as is said, by William the Lion in the beginning of the thirteenth century, it carries its seven centuries well, and shows no sign of decrepitude or decay. It was built to last, for its walls are of enormous thickness. Moreover, it has not a single beam of wood in its structure, so that it never ran the risk of being destroyed, as most of our very ancient buildings have been, by fire. It remains to-day without crack or bulge to show the ravages of Time's effacing fingers. Age has withered its outer shell somewhat, but has not shaken its majestic foundations. It stands four-square to every wind that blows, stubborn and tough and unsubdued. Its prototypes must be found in the square Norman "keeps" of the eleventh and twelfth centuries. Its architecture is of the simplest kind, absolutely without embellishment. Everything about it points to a far-off day, when arts of defence had to be considered, to the exclusion of ornamentation. Entrance is given only on the first floor, and in the old days this could be reached only by outside steps, easily removed in the hour of danger.

Access being gained at this point, the visitor may take his choice of ascending to the top or descending to the dungeon. The upward route is by means of a corkscrew stair in the south-east corner of the wall. This lands you in a spacious vaulted chamber occupying the whole area of the tower. From this, the topmost chamber, a modern trap stair leads to the leaded roof, which is ringed by a line of battlements for the protection of the defending garrison. From the raised platform of the flagstaff a fine view of the surrounding country is obtained, especially of the smiling valley and rich agricultural district eastward towards the Granite City. The height of the tower from the ground to the top of the embattled wall is

almost 70 feet, while the sides are approximately 50 and 40 feet in length.

Most interesting is the vaulted chamber on the ground floor—a dismal, gruesome apartment, suggestive of deeds of darkness. It is partly underground, and very dark, the only light admitted being through a narrow slit in the south wall. This wedge-shaped aperture enables the visitor to measure the thickness of the wall, which at this point is 13 feet—a mass of solid masonry never likely to lose its stability. In one corner of the dungeon is a draw well, in which, at the depth of a few feet, the water can still be seen by the help of a lamp. An iron ring depends from the centre of the vaulted roof, the uses of which can only be surmised. Great quantities of bones, presumably human, have been excavated and removed from the floor of this chamber of horrors, which, if it could speak, would no doubt be able to tell many a tragic tale. Such are the upper and lower chambers. The room between has in recent years been connected with the other rooms of the castle, and is utilised as a library and billiard-room. Its groined roof is embellished with numerous heraldic shields—the arms of families with which the Irvines of Drum have intermarried.

Externally, the tower is rounded at the corners, which, according to the best authorities, is a proof that it belongs to the days of the battering-ram, when gunpowder was unknown. The rounded angle gave no hold to these engines of attack. Colonel Leslie, whose book on the Irvines of Drum was recently published, was of opinion that the roof of the tower belongs to the days before gunpowder, because, in its original form, it was at the mercy of point-blank shots from the rising ground to the north and west.

So much for the tower. The more modern parts of the Castle were erected in 1619, which date stands prominent in the stonework above the projecting windows of the south front. The house occupies two sides of a square, the blank sides being filled up with enclosing walls, in which are quaintly-built gateways. A little way removed from the house, and lying to the west, is a miniature chapel. Though now detached from the Castle, it was probably part of the building superseded in 1619. The chapel is used for family prayers, and also for occasional church service. It is, besides, the mausoleum of the Irvines, taking the place of the ancient burying-ground of the family, in the transept of St Nicholas Church, Aberdeen, still called Drum's Aisle.

The interior of the house is no less interesting than the exterior. A few modern improvements have not obliterated the ancient character of the building. From kitchen to drawing-room one feels the contrast between the modern twentieth century mansion-house, built according to the modern architect's notions of utility, and the arrangements that were up to date three centuries ago. The walls of the drawing-room and dining-room are covered with many notable pictures, some by old masters, some by modern painters. A fine and characteristic canvas by Murillo, entitled "Two Spanish Boys," is perhaps the "chef d'œuvre," but there are family portraits by Raeburn and specimens of the work of Rubens and Salvator Rosa. A local artist of some repute during last century—Giles—is represented by many land-capes; while Sir George Reid's portrait of the twenty-first Irvine of Drum, the present proprietor's grandfather, is a living likeness that brings back a figure familiar to all Aberdonians of twenty years ago. A family of such antiquity is sure to have many curios and antique relics. Here is a helmet said to have belonged to Robert the Bruce. There, in a glass case, is a portion of Prince Charlie's plaid, as also his table napkin. A holly tree near the little chapel already referred to is said to have been planted by Robert the Bruce. This is only a tradition, of course, but the tree seems old enough to give colour to the tradition. The holly leaf, always green and always glossy, is the emblem of the Irvines, with the legend "Sub sole sub umbra virens."

The story goes that when Bruce was engaged in his efforts to secure the Scottish crown, he was accompanied by William de Irvin in all his dangers, and on one occasion they escaped from a large force of their enemies by concealing themselves in a copse of holly; hence the emblem. Hence, too, the motto, which testifies to the resolute faithfulness of the family in both prosperity and adversity.

John Barbour.

I read with much pleasure recently that it is intended to restore the tomb of the great prelate, William Elphinstone, in King's College Chapel, Old Aberdeen. Every true-hearted Scot will approve of this undertaking.

At the same time, I would also suggest that a tablet be erected in St Machar's Cathedral to John Barbour, the metrical historian of the heroic Bruce, with an inscription like this:—

In Memory of
JOHN BARBOUR,
King's Chaplain, and
Archdeacon of the Diocese of Aberdeen.
From 1356 till his death in 1396.
An Early Scottish Poet and Historian,
Who died in Aberdeen, and is buried in or
around the precincts of this Cathedral.

I am not aware of any memorial to Barbour in the old edifice. He deserves to be kept in remembrance. The cost would be comparatively a trivial matter, and then the literary wayfarer would be at once confronted with the fact, too long suppressed, that our early national poet for 40 years officiated in that building.

ALBA.

The Sands of Culbin.

The sand-hills of Culbin, near Forres, extend along the sea shore for four or five miles, and inland about two miles. This was the locality of a large extent of fertile land, which about two centuries ago was covered with sand. Between the years 1670 and 1795, in consequence of the drift of loose sand from the westward, the mansion-house, farm steadings, and greater part of the estate of Culbin were covered with sand, and remain covered over to the present day. The sand-hills of Culbin occasionally rise to the height of 100 feet above the level of the sea, and form a waste where no plant except the bent grass finds a rooting. Large portions of the hills are bare sand without a blade of vegetation of any description. Shaw, in his "History of the Province of Moray," says it was about the year 1705 that the house and lands of Culbin were covered with sand, but he is no doubt in error in regard to the date. The desolation of the estate of Culbin must have been completed prior to the year 1695, as appears from the narrative of an Act of the Parliament of Scotland, passed in that year (1695), to prevent the pulling of bent:—

"Our Soveraign Lord, considering that many lands, meadows, and pasturages, lying on the sea coast, have been ruined and overspread in many places of this kingdom by sand driven from adjacent sand-hills, the which has been mainly occasioned by the pulling up by the root of bent, juniper, and broom bushes, which did loose and break the surface and scrooffe of the saids hills, and particularly considering that the Barony of Cowbin, and house and yairds thereof, the which was occasioned by the foresaid bad practice of pulling the bent and juniper, Therefore His Majesty, with advice and consent of the Estates of Parliament, for preventing of the like prejudices in time coming, Does strictly prohibit and discharge the pulling of bent, broom or juniper off sand-hills for hereafter, either by the proprietors themselves, or by any other whatsomever, the same being the natural fences of the adjacent countries to the saids hills; certifying such as shall contraveen this Act, they shall not only be lyable to the dammages that shall therthrough insue, but shall likewise be lyable in the soum of ten pounds of penalty, the one halfe thereof to belong to the Informer, and the other halfe to the Judge within whose jurisdiction the said contravention shall be committed."

One effect of the drifting of the sand and raising of the sand-hills of Culbin was a change made in the bed and mouth of the river Findhorn, which got a shorter passage to the sea. The author of the "Survey of the Province of Moray," published in 1798, says that about 100 years previous to that time, the river "flowed westward nearly six miles, converging with the shore." The same author says "Prior to the year 1701, the town of Findhorn, regularly built, stood upon a pleasant plain, a mile north-west from its present situation, and now the bottom of the sea. The irruption, though completed in one night and by one tide, had long been apprehended, and the inhabitants had gradually withdrawn."—"Banffshire Journal," 29th March, 1910.

Family of Stobie of Luscar.

Dr J. G. B. Bulloch, Washington, recently secured a number of extracts from Scottish MS. volumes having reference to the old family of Stobie of Luscar, in Carnock parish, Fifeshire. These extracts having been arranged by Dr Bulloch, were contributed by him to a recent issue of the National Genealogical Society, Washington, and as the details are of interest to Scottish readers, we are authorised to give them here:—

Adam Stobie, younger, was an ardent Covenanter, who was captured and placed on board of a vessel from which, however, he managed to escape. He married Margaret Gibbon, daughter of William Gibbon and his wife, Elizabeth Row. This lady was the daughter of Rev. John Row, author of "History of the Church of Scotland," third son of Rev. John Row, minister of Perth. Adam Stobie, younger, of West Luscar, died in 1711.

PEEBLES.

1684, January 28.—Elizabeth, daughter of Mr William Rollo, Parson of Stobo, and Elizabeth Lowes, his spouse, was baptized.

CARNOCK.

1659.—Adam Stobie had a son borne on Sunday, the 10th of July, 1659, about 7 hours in the morning, and bapd. on Tuesday therefter, the 12 of July, called Williame.

1653.—Adam Stobie, younger, had a son baptized called Adame. Witnesses, James Wardlaw, Adam Anderson, and Adam Bryce.

1661.—Adam Stobie had a daur. brought forth to him be his (wife) Margaret Gibbon on Friday, at 8 houres in the evening, the 22d of Novem. 1661, and bapd. on Tuesday therefter, the 26 Nov., 1661, called Catharine.

1663.—Adam Stobie had a son brought forth to him be his wife Margaret Gibbon on Tuesday, the 4th August, 1663, at afternoon, and bapd. on Tuesday, the 11th of Aug., called John.

1664.—Adam Stobie had a daur. brought forth to him be his wife Margt. Gibbon about 6 houres at night, the 1 of Sept., 1664, and was baptized the second Wednesday therefter, being Dunfermling mercat day, the 14 of Septem., 1664, be Robert Keyth, who came to Carnok for that effect, being thereto desyred, called Helen. Witnesses, Mr Thomas Walker, Thomas Huttone, George Wilson Smith, in Carnock. The said child died on the Sabbath

therefter, the 18 of Septomber, 1664, about 7 houres at night, and was buried the morrow next, being Monday, 19th Septr.

1667.—Adam Stoby had a daur. brought forth to him be his wife Margaret Gibbon on Tuesday, about 12 houres, the 26th March, 1667, and hapd. on the second Monenday therefter, being the 15 of April, 1667, called Helen. Witnesses, Adam Bryce, George Wilson, and Mr James Hutton.

1694.—James Stobie (possibly Scobie in this case), in the paroch of Saline, had a daur. brought forth to him by his wife, upon Wednesday, May the 10, and bapd. May the 27th, called Boise, 1694.

1708.—John Stobie in Lusker had a daur. brought forth to him by his wife Grisal Stobie, June 6th, and bapd the 12th, called Grisal.

1709.—John Stobo had a son brought forth to him by his wife Grisal Stobo, Augt. the 21st, and bapd. Augt. 31, called John, 1709.

1714.—Kathrine Stobie, daur. to John Stobie in Wester Luskar, born July 22d; bapd. July 26th, 1714.

1716.—John Stobie, son to John Stobie of Luskar, was born March 21st and bapd. March 25th, 1716.

1718.—William Stobie, son to John Stobie portioner of Luskar, was born February 14th, bapd. February 17, 1718.

1719.—William, son to John Stobie portioner of Wester Luskar, was born January 27 day and bapd. February, 1719.

1721.—James Stobie, son to John Stobie portioner of Wester Luskar, was born August 13th and bapd. August 24th, 1721

1723.—Elizabeth Stobie, daur. to do., born April 17 and bapd. April 26, 1723.

John Stobie, portioner of Wester Luskar, had a son brought forth to him by his wife Grissell Stobie, upon December the 28th, and bapd. January the 1st day, 1725, called George.

1736.—Alexander Stobie, son to Adam Stobie in Luskar, was born November the 14th and bapd. December 6th, 1736.

1743, April 28.—Adam Stobie of Wester Luskar witness to entry Joseph Strachan.

1744.—Grizel, daur. to Adam Stobie portioner of Wester Luskar, was born upon January the 22d at 5 afternoon and bapd. January 27, 1744

1745.—John, son to Adam Stobie of Wester Luskar, was born July the 19th and bapd. July 23d, 1745.

1746, Dec. 26.—Adam Stobo of Wester Luscar had a daur. bapd. who was born the 22d inst., named Grizel.

1651, Janry. 28.—Adamo Stobie had a daur. bapd. called Margaret. Wit: Mr John Gibbone, Jas. Wardlaw and Wm. Stobie.

1651, April 27.—Bessie Stobie had a son bapd. called James. Wit: Patrick Lyndsay, Adam Stobies, elder and younger.

Att Sandyknoll, February, 1754, Mr William Anderson, Schoolmaster in Carnock, had a daughter baptized who was brought forth to him by his wife, Elizabeth Stobie, named Grizel.

23 April, 1755.—Do, do, a daur. Janet born 11th curt.

At Dunfermline, March 30th, 1754, John Stobie, tenant in Knockhill of Carnock had a daur. baptized who was brought forth to him by his wife Isabel Dickie, the 26th curt., named Margaret.

Dunfermline, 24 August, 1754, Iandrew Ingles, weaver in Carin hill, had a son bapd. who was brought forth to him by his wife Margt. Stobie, upon the 10th curt., named Andrew.

Carnock, 26 Decem., 1756, Mr William Anderson and Elizabeth Stobie, ut supra, a D. born 22d inst., n. Margret.

Dunfermline, 30th October, 1757(?).—John Stobie, in Knockhill of Carnock, had twins born at one birth baptized, who were brought forth to him by his wife Isobel Dickie upon the 28th curt., the first born of which was named Junee and the other John.

Carnock, 13 September, 1758.—John Stobie, Portioner of Waster Luscar, had a son baptized who was brought forth to him by his wife Kathrine Hutcheson the 11th curt., n. John.

1759, June 17.—Mr William Anderson, Schoolmaster here, had a daughter bapd. who was brought forth to him by his wife Elizabeth Stobie upon the 15th curt., being half an hour before one in the morning, n. Elisabeth.

Luscar, 9th May, 1760.—Mr John Stobie, Portioner of Waster Luscar, had a Daur. bapd. who was brought forth to him by his wife Kathrine Hutcheson upon 8th curt., n. Kathrine.

Carnock, 22 December, 1760.—Mr Wm. Anderson, Preacher of the Gospel at Newbigging, had a son bapd. who was brought forth to him by his wife Elisabeth Stobie upon 19th inst., n. John.

Carnock, 3d June, 1762.—Mr John Stobie of Waster Luscar had a Daur. bapd. who was brought forth to him by his wife Kathrine Hutcheson, the last of the preceding, n. Margret

19 February, 1765(?).—Mr Wm. Anderson Preacher of the Gospel at Newbigging, had a son bapd. who was brought forth to him by his wife Elisabeth Stobie upon 17th inst., n. William.

Carnock, —— ——.—Mr John Stobie of Waster Luscar had a Daur. bapd. who was brought forth to him by his wife Kathrine Hutcheson.

7 July, 1766.—Mr Wm. Anderson and Elisabeth Stobie, ut supra, a son born 2d inst., n. William.

Note.—From an entry it appears Mr Adam Stobie was in Wester Luscar in July, 1769.

1775, May.—A servant of Mr John Stobie.

1778, March 30.—John Stobie, Officer of Excise, and Mary Rolland, B. John, 7th April at Luscar, after a sermon preached by the Revd. Mr George Adie, Minister of the Gospel at Carnock. Adam Stobie, his father, and John Stobie of Luscar, witnesses.

1781.—John Stobie, Junior, in Herdhill, and Christian Drysdale had a Daur. born upon the 14th of February, 1781, and Bapd. Isabel upon the 18th curt., in presence of the congregation.

RENFREW, 1760.

1752.—Margaret, daughter to John Stobo and Mary Semple, was born the 6th and bapd. the 17th December.

GLASGOW, 1765.

1768, Nov. 18.—David Stobo, Shoemaker in Glasgow, and Catharine Henderson, L. D. of Jas. Henderson, weaver.

1770, August 21.—John Stobo, Painter, and Janet Baxter, both residenters in Glasgow.

1770, Nov. 30.—John Stobo, weaver in Anderston, and Janet Pinkerton, residenter in Glasgow.

1774, July 14.—Moses Stobo, carpet weaver, and Janet Shaw, both residenters in Glasgow.

DEATHS.

23 Jany., 1657.—John Stobie, son to Adam Stobie, younger, buried.

5 Nov., 1661.—Adam Stobie was buried in Dunfermling.

17 Feby., 1662.—William Stobie in Tow—(?), buried.

28 Jany., 1675.—Bessie Stobie buried in Dunfermling.

———ber, 1683.—————, younger, son to Adam Stobie in [Lu]-scar, was buried.

22 Dec., 1685.—————e, daughter to Adam Stobie ——.

30 April, 1711.—Received for the use of the best Mortcloath for Adam Stobie portioner, of Wester Luskar, 1—10—00.

3 Nov., 1712.—Item for the little Mortcloath to John Stobie's child, 0—12—00.

14 May, 1719.—Item for the old Mortcloath to John Stobie's child, 0—12—00.

1661.—Adam Stobie, elder, died on Sunday about 8 houres at even the 3 of November, 1661, and was buried on Tuesday thereftir in Dunfermling.

1662.—William Stobie, son to Adam Stobie, died on Sunday about 2 houres in the morning, the 16 of Feb., 1662, and was buried on Monday the 17.

1647, March 21.—Adam Stobie, younger, gave in his pledge two dollers at 5 lib 10/, being contracted in marriage with Margaret Gibbone, daughter to umqll. Wm. Gibbon, indweller in Beaulyaird, and Elizabeth Row. Adam Bryce, cautioner for the man, and Richard Templeman for the woman.

1648 (?). Feby. 26.—Adam Stobie hes desyred his pledge to be restored to him againe quhilk was laid down befor his marriage, and is delivered unto [him] by Adam Brice, to whom it is recommendit that he should give something to the poor of the parish.

1650, June 16.—Sophia Stobie cited for absenting her self from church.

1654, Jany. 8.—Sophia Stobie appeared as a witness.

1658, Oct. 15.—Andrew Peacock and Bessie Stobie were reconciled this day, after dealing by the Session.

1661, Janry. 10.—John Rankin in Carridin parish, gave up his name for proclamation with Sophia Stoby in our parish and found caution, etc.

1676, March 21.—David Mather was married with Elizabeth Stobie at the kirk of Ormeston. Mr John Sincklar performed that duty.

John Burness ("Thrummy Cap").

It is agreed by at least two able editors of county anthology that the author of the wonderful story of "Thrummy Cap" was born at Bogjorgan, a farm in the parish of Glenbervie, on 23rd May, 1771, but the date of his death is erroneously given by a well-known local author as having taken place in 1824. Determined to probe the matter to the bottom in order to satisfy myself and another gentleman interested in Burnsiana, I searched the burial records of the Spital Burial-ground, Aberdeen, and failed to find the name recorded in the year mentioned; but, on 17th January, 1826, I found the entry "John Burness, 55 years, Baker, Stonehaven," which settles the question beyond all further doubt.

My friend Mr Alan Reid, in his excellent "Bards of Angus and Mearns," makes (p. 75) the following suggestion, which might easily be carried out—"Might not the Burns Clubs of the counties combine to mark the grave of this poetic kinsman of the most distinguished scion of the Mearns?" John Burness's burial lair in the old days, the superintendent of the cemetery informs me, would be 32 24—now converted into a walk. But a suitable memorial could easily be placed adjacent, and reference made on the stone to that effect.

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

High Tribute to a Native of Aberdeenshire.

Mr Patrick Moir, eldest son of Rev. Dr George Moir, parish minister of Peterhead, died in India in 1810. The "Aberdeen Journal" of 12th August, 1812, contains the following reference to him:—

THE LATE PATRICK MOIR, ESQ.

This highly respected gentleman, the eldest son of the reverend Dr Moir, of Peterhead, died at Calcutta more than two years ago. His friend and patron, Lord Minto, paid the last tribute to his worth in the following epitaph.

in which his character and merits are most happily delineated—

Sacred
to the Memory
of
Patrick Moir, Esq.,
who died at Calcutta,
on the 5th February,
A.D. 1810,
in the 41st year of his Age.

In 1806 he filled the office of Secretary to Lord Minto, at that time President of the Board of Commissioners for the affairs of India, whom he accompanied to Bengal in the year 1807, and was appointed a Commissioner of the Court of Requests at Calcutta in the same year, a trust which he discharged with integrity, assiduity, and ability, to the time of his decease.

His Virtues, Talents, and Accomplishments
all of the highest order,
enhanced by a singular Simplicity
and Modesty of Character,
had attracted in an eminent degree
the Esteem and Regard
of the World.
His gentle but cheerful Manners,
his benevolent and warm Affections
endeared him to numerous Friends,
whose tender but sorrowful Recollections
will long survive him.
He lived respected and beloved,
and died deservedly and universally deplored.

Soft on thy Tomb shall fond Remembrance shed
The warm but unavailing Tear;
And purple Flowers, that grace the virtuous dead,
Shall strew thy lov'd and honour'd Bier.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1847.

3rd January. At Keith, John Gatherer, Esq., Solicitor, aged 73, the oldest member of the Banff Bar.

9th January. At Fyvie Castle, William Gordon, Esq. of Fyvie, aged 71.

15th January. Alexander Anderson, Esq., Surgeon, Ellon, aged 31.

6th February. At Leamington, Andrew Murray of Murrayshall, Esq., Sheriff of Aberdeenshire.

13th February. At Peterhead, Mrs Margaret Laing, relict of Thomas Laing, Esq. of Haddo.

22nd February. At Moresoat, near Aberdeen, Barbara, youngest daughter of the late Rev. William Copland, Minister of Forbes, in her 78th year.

12th February. At Candacraig, Robert Anderson, Esq. of Candacraig, aged 54.

28th February. At Canterland, John Peter, Esq., late factor to the Right Hon. the Earl of Kintore, in his 66th year.

7th March. At Strachan Manse, Rev. James Fergusson, in his 74th year.

9th March. At 20 Pitt Street, Edinburgh, Miss Jane Farquharson of Invercy.

17th March. At Cairnfield House, Adam Gordon, Esq. of Cairnfield, aged 74.

19th March. At 100 Chapel Street, Mrs Agnes Oswald, widow of Captain James Oswald, and eldest daughter of the late Rev. Dr Kidd, aged 59 years.

12th March. At Cheltenham, William Urquhart of Craigston, Esq., J.P., and D.L., Aberdeenshire, aged 45.

17th March. At Cromlethill, Alexander Manson, Esq. of Oakhill, aged 77.

5th April. At Turriff, Dr William Garden Sangster, aged 32.

23rd April. At 52 Union Place, Mrs Margaret M'Intosh, relict of Rev. George Anderson, Minister of Leochel-Cushnie.

23rd April. At 62 Dee Street, James Johnston, senior, Esq., late merchant, aged 67.

4th April. At Huntly, Rev. George Cruickshank, late pastor of the Congregational Church, Rhynie, in his 78th year.

2nd May. At his house Dee Street, John Elmslie, Esq., late of Fingask, aged 81.

18th May. At Old Aberdeen, Dr Gordon, senior, in his 81st year.

24th May. At Elgin, Mrs Margaret Duff, relict of Patrick Duff, Esq., Town Clerk of Elgin, aged 76.

4th June. At Peterhead, George Arbuthnot, Esq. of Invernettie, aged 69.

3rd July. At Arbeadie Cottage, Banchory, Frances, widow of Archibald Farquharson, Esq. of Finzean, and last surviving child of the deceased Francis Russell, Esq. of Blackhall.

28th June. Here, Ann Stronach, aged 89, the faithful servant and attached friend of one family for the long period of 70 years.

9th July. At Peterhead, Mr James Hogg, shipowner, aged 66.

7th August. At the Manse, Daviot, Mary Gordon, wife of Rev. Thomas Burnett.

15th August. At Aboyne, Rev. Charles Begg, parochial schoolmaster there.

18th August. At Kirktown Cottage, Echt, Margaret Tod, relict of Rev. George Middleton, Minister of Midmar, in her 75th year.

4th September. At Wraes, Kennethmont, George Cooper, Senior, farmer, aged 73.

10th September. At Mortimer House, Cleveden, Mrs Keith, relict of Alexander Keith, Esq. of Ravelston and Dunottar.

26th September. At Aberdeen, T. H.

Richardson, Esq., of Banff, of which he was Provost from 1841 to 1844.

8th October. At Balmoral, in his 58th year, the Right Hon. Sir Robert Gordon, G.C.B., one of Her Majesty's Privy Councillors, and late British Ambassador at the Court of Vienna.

13th October. At Old Aberdeen, Rev. Patrick Forbes, D.D., one of the Ministers of Old Machar and Professor of Humanity in King's College.

15th October. At Manse of Inverury, Isabella Mitchell, aged 75, relict of Rev. William Smith, Minister of Bourtie.

20th October. At Garnet Hill, Glasgow, Catharine Gordon, relict of Major John Anderson of Candacraig.

28th October. At Begsley, Dyce, Rev. Theodore Allan, A.M., Schoolmaster of Coull, aged 41.

13th November. At 249 Union Street, Dame Rachel Bannerman, widow of Sir Alexander Bannerman of Elsick, seventh Baronet.

16th November. Here, aged 72, Miss Isabella Duff, second daughter of the late Rev. William Duff, Minister of Foveran.

26th November. At Kingsland Place, Mrs Smith, relict of Rev. John Smith, Blackhills, Skene.

28th November. At St Leonards-on-Sea, Charlotte, wife of Robert Grant, Esq. of Monymusk.

27th November. At Powis, John Leslie, Esq of Powis, aged 56.

11th December. Here, Mr John Sutherland, late Hosier, aged 81.

4th December. At Wallfield, May Cameron, wife of D. L. Shirres.

12th December. At Aberdeen, Alexander Smith of Glenmillan, aged 64.

13th December. At his house 42 Queen Street, Aberdeen, Robert Shand of Hillside, aged 75.

9th December. At 24 Belmont Street, aged 80, Ann Clark, relict of Alexander Black, Linhead, Foveran.

22nd December. At 5 Church Terrace, Great Malvern, John Burnett, Esq. of Kennay.

18th December. Mr James Dunn, one of the Masters of the Grammar School, Aberdeen, in his 43rd year.

Queries.

466. The Pawnbroker's Three Brass Balls.—When were the three brass balls adopted as the emblem or sign of the pawnbroker, and what meaning are these balls intended to convey?—I have heard different meanings assigned.

A. B.

467. The Proctor Family.—Jane Proctor, "the pretty maiden of Netherton of Edenvillie," married John Gordon, at Mill of Laggan. Provost Black, of Elgin, in a lecture delivered in Glenrinnes (when?) on the Glenrinnes Gordons, says she was "celebrated in a song." Where is it to be found?

J. M. B.

468. Charles Gordon Rose, of Bleack.—What is known of his genealogy? The "Aberdeen Journal" records the death of his son, Robert Gordon Rose, as having taken place at Aberdeen on 2nd July, 1824.

Y.

469. Where is "Tomptron"?—In one of the wills at the India Office Major Thomas Gordon, Madras Army, in 1798 leaves certain moneys to his mother, Mrs Isabel Gordon, "at Tompuron, near Cliff, Scotland." His sister Susan (Mrs Logen) and her brother James also benefit under the will. Thomas was the cousin of Colonel Dow, of the Bombay Army. Where is "Tompuron"? The "Tom" seems Gaelic.

J. M. Bulloch.

Answers.

432. Two Gold Coins.—The coins in question do not appear to be rare, and would bring only a little more than their face value.

J. A.

444. Robert Duthie, Poet.—Duthie was born at Stonehaven in 1826, and died there in 1865. "Mearnsman" will find particulars of his life and specimens of his compositions in Mr Alan Reid's work entitled "The Bards of Angus and the Mearns: an Anthology of the Counties" (pp. 157-159). Messrs J. and R. Parlane, Paisley, were the publishers of the work in 1897. (Quarto, xliv. 611 pp., with a dozen illustrations.)

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

464. The Lifeboat.—The first patent for a lifeboat was taken out by Lukin in 1765. His boat had considerable strength and buoyancy, but was liable to be disabled by having its sides stayed in. In 1789, Henry Greathead gained the premium offered for the invention of the best form of lifeboat, and by 1804 his boat had saved several hundred lives from vessels which had been wrecked. The "Aberdeen Journal" of 6th November, 1805, has the following:—"The lifeboat has now been introduced into three quarters of the globe. One has been sent to America, and another to the East Indies. Mr Greathead is now building one by order of Sir William Forbes, for Fraserburgh, and last week he received an order, couched in the most handsome terms, for another from our heroic ally the King of Sweden."

J. Smith.

No. 107.—May 4, 1910.

"The Doom of the Erskines of Mar."

Under the suggestive heading, "Trumped-Up Tradition," the following appears in the "Stirling Sentinel" of 5th April, in "Occasional Notes," signed "Q."—

The writers for magazines must often be hard pressed to find subjects for popular papers, and the whole field of literature is ransacked for matter to gratify the taste for spicy and sensational concoctions. Probably this accounts for the appearance in the April number of a London magazine of an article with the startling title of "The Doom of the Erskines of Mar," the writer of which has not been very careful to verify his facts. He gives, for example, the date of the Battle of Harlaw as 1441, instead of 1411; he makes the ninth Earl of Mar the thirteenth, and a portrait represented to be that of the present Earl of Mar and Kellie is a photograph of the Earl of Mar of the older creation. The author acknowledges his indebtedness to the late Sir Bernard Burke for the legend he relates, and a comparison with Burke's article in his "Family Romance" shows that the magazine-writer has done little more than expand the matter that lay to his hand, and has taken no trouble to ascertain whether Sir Bernard's story was confirmed by history.

"The Doom of the Erskines of Mar" is founded on an alleged curse, the original of which is said to have been delivered in Gaelic verse, but it is doubtful if it was ever written down. Sir Bernard Burke adds that the family themselves have always been averse to giving any details concerning the curse, and could never be induced to do more than attest its truth. I am pretty certain that this latter assertion has no foundation in fact, and I believe the whole story to be a fabrication dating from about the beginning of last century, shortly after the burning of Alloa Tower in 1801. It is only necessary to refer to one clause of the comprehensive curse and Burke's interpretation of it to prove that it is a trumped-up "tradition." This clause runs as follows:—

"Thou shalt rule and destroy, and thy work shall be called after thy name; but thy work shall be the emblem of thy house, and shall teach mankind that he who cruelly and haughtily raiseth himself upon the ruins of the holy cannot prosper. Thy work shall be cursed and shall never be finished."

Burke says, in explanation of this prediction, that the Earl of Mar as Regent commanded the destruction of Cambuskenneth Abbey, and took its stones to build himself a palace in Stirling, which never advanced further than the facade, and which has always been called "Mar's Work." The magazine writer makes an addition of his own—"Nor did his descendants ever complete the building."

Now, nothing can be more certain than that Mar's Work, or the "New Wark," as it is called in the charters, was finished and occupied not only by the Regent, but after his death by his Countess. His eldest son, the Earl of Mar, frequently lived in it—"splendidly," Sir Robert Sibbald says—and he died in it in December, 1634. The statement that the building was never finished was not invented till long after Mar's Work was untenanted, and was used to give point to the alleged curse. That the stones came from Cambuskenneth Abbey is also a fiction. The details, according to a good authority—Mr J. W. Small, formerly of Stirling—are hundreds of years later than Cambuskenneth, and the whole of them dovetail in with the work of the middle of the sixteenth century. "The Doom of the Erskines," therefore, had no connection whatever with the destruction of the Abbey, which, by the way, was not commanded by the Regent Mar. The alleged curse is precisely what the magazine writer says it is not—an ex post facto prophecy, erroneously labelled as tradition.

The Gordons of Auchlochrach.

Some years ago the late Provost Black of Elgin delivered a lecture in Glenrinnes on the Gordons of that region. He stated that Harry Gordon, "third son of John, the third Gordon of Beldornie, went to Auchlochrach about 1660 or 1670," and was the founder of the family there who, as far as I can discover, were the first Gordons of Glenrinnes. "How long they remained in Auchlochrach, I do not exactly know, but they gained distinction and lost their portions. Harry, the second of Auchlochrach, was one of the forty-five northern heroes who went to the Duke of Gordon at Edinburgh Castle during the revolution of 1688 to aid his grace in defending the Castle against the troops of the Council of State and King William. The siege had lasted three months, and the Duke of Gordon, who was governor of the Castle, in his extremity, asked for forty-five of the best and most resolute that could be found to come to him from his own lands. Harry Gordon of Auchlochrach was one of the brave band, and he greatly distinguished himself." He had "the complete confidence of the Duke. He was entrusted with the most difficult and delicate duties, and commanded one of the most prominent points of the defence the night before the Castle was surrendered. He came home afterwards, but he had exhausted his property to a degree that his descendants did not recover for two succeeding generations.

"James, third of Auchlochrach, was the eldest son of this distinguished man. His son John left Auchlochrach, and went to Mill of Laggan, and his son John also lived there. . .

"A branch of the Gordons came to Auchnastank and Tomnagylach. It was founded by James Gordon, third son of the first Harry Gordon of Auchlochrach, brother of the distinguished Harry who defended Edinburgh Castle. They have been in Auchnastank, where they are worthily represented by our venerable friend, who has been himself more than half a century there. His uncle, Robert Gordon, first in Rectetich, went to Auchlochrach towards the end of his days, and died there. His only representatives are his son's widow and family at Heath Cottage in Aberlour.

"The Belmerian and Rinaitin Gordons are difficult to trace. The great-grandfather of the present Belmerian and Rinaitin, as well as my own, William Gordon of Lynemore, was always understood to be closely connected with the Auchlochrach Gordons, but how I cannot trace. His sons and grandsons were in Belmerian and Bregach. His great-grandsons are now our much-respected friends, Belmerian and Rinaitin, whom we have with us this evening."

When was this lecture delivered?

The Hereditary Standard-Bearer of Scotland.

The House of Lords, on April 7, gave judgment in the appeal of Henry Scrymgeour Wedderburn, of Birkhill, Fife, against the judgment of the First Division of the Court of Session sustaining the claim of the Earl of Lauderdale to the hereditary office of Standard-Bearer to the King of Scotland. (For particulars of this interesting lawsuit, see "'Aberdeen Journal' Notes and Queries," Vol. I., pp. 75-6). The decision of the Court of Session was reversed by the House of Lords, who held that the Earl of Lauderdale had no title to be Standard-Bearer, but that, on the other hand, Mr Scrymgeour Wedderburn inherited the office and dignity as heir male of the ancient family of Scrymgeours, to whom it was originally granted.

The Lord Chancellor (Lord Loreburn), in the course of giving the leading judgment, said—The pursuer (Lord Lauderdale) brings an action to establish the proposition that he is the proprietor of the ancient—I might almost call it, the venerable—right of the Standard-Bearer of Scotland: it seems to have been originated as early as the 13th century. It is necessary for the pursuer to prove his case. His claim is for an ancient office or dignity. Your lordships must see what is the nature of that office or dignity. It was contended for the pursuer that it was a thing which was adjudgable, which might be sold or bought or put up for auction or taken by a stranger, a foreigner, or possibly even a limited liability company, as an ordinary pecuniary asset. I think it is perfectly clear that the right was "jure sanguinis," and was not a thing "in commercio" at all. It has been decided that the office of the Usher in the Court of Session was an adjudgable office, and great regret was expressed by the learned judges, who thought they were drawn into a decision on a principle which they expressed disapproval of. We are not bound to say that the decision regarding the Court of Session Usher carried with it the necessity of deciding the same thing in regard to the Standard-Bearer of Scotland. I would observe that the same attempt has been made to get the office of Earl Marshal of Scotland as though that also was adjudgable or liable to be put up for auction. But good sense prevailed in the Court of Session, and they did hold that the office of Earl Marshal was not a chattel of that description. I am satisfied that we are not bound to hold that the office of Standard-Bearer of Scotland is of that character that it can be treated as a matter of commerce, and I have not the slightest inclination to hold anything of the kind. I think your lordships are satisfied that this cannot be bought and cannot be sold, that it was an office attached to the blood, and if the blood fails the grant is spent and the office is extinct. If the grant is spent the King might, in the absence of statutory prohibition, grant it again to someone else, because the Sovereign is the fountain of all dignity. But it happens that in 1455 an Act of Parliament was passed in Scotland prohibiting the Crown from doing anything of the kind. The consequence is that, as I think, this is fatal to the pursuer's alleged title. This ancient dignity belonged to the family of Scrymgeour, and belonged to them since apparently the 13th century. The limitations under which it was held are dealt with in two Scottish Acts of Parliament, one of the year 1594, under which the present appellant (Mr Scrymgeour Wedderburn) is unquestionably and indisputably the heir of entail. But some difficulty may be said to arise in regard to that Act of 1594, and I prefer not to found my own decision upon that Act, although I am far from saying that I could reject the claim of the appellant if it only rested on that Act. But there is another Act, the Act of 1660, by which this office and dignity goes to the heirs male of the Scrymgeour blood. I will assume in favour of the respondent (Lord Lauderdale) that that was the only limitation we had to consider. Under these circumstances, Lord Lauderdale claims a title which had its origin, according to his own statement, in the 17th century. I cannot see how it is possible for any title to be retained in the 17th century, having regard to the Act of 1455, unless either the pursuer can show that he was an heir male of the Scrymgeours, which is not attempted, or that he obtained it by Act of Parliament which authorised the giving of this hereditary office, notwithstanding the preceding Act of 1455.

Leitch Ritchie.

This well-known writer, author of several novels, such as "Scinderhannes, the Robber of the Rhine," and "Wearyfoot Common," editor of several newspapers and serials, including "Heath's Picturesque Annual" and "Chambers's Edinburgh Journal," died at Greenwich on 16th January, 1865. I am of

opinion that his full name was Quintin Leitch Ritchie, and that he dropped his first name much in the same way as Leigh Hunt discarded the James Henry which he received at the baptismal font. I have seen in an old Glasgow publication pieces of verse, signed "Q.L.R.," and latterly "Q. L. Ritchie." During his literary career Ritchie wrote a lot of verse, but made no specialty of it, wisely adhering to prose.

Quintin Leitch, from whom he derived his prenomen, was an able and energetic man, for many years Provost and Chief Magistrate of Greenock. Originally a ship captain, he became shipowner, and by his ability and assiduity he raised the small port of Greenock to the status of a great commercial town. He died on 21st September, 1827, aged 53. He shares with Abram Lyle the distinction of the improvement and advancement of Greenock.

Let anyone curious in this matter turn over the Greenock birth register for 1801, and he will in all probability find my surmise to be correct. I think if Leitch Ritchie had excised the "Leitch" and signed himself "Quintin Ritchie," he would have escaped the brutal Southron taunt that he had the national infirmity (the itch) twice in his name; but he treated such petulant attacks of literary hooliganism with absolute indifference.

ALBA.

Marriage Service among the Hills.

A marriage took place on the night of 7th April in the open air among the hills on the Borderland between England and Scotland. The bride resided on the Cumberland side of the Border, about 50 yards up the hillside from the stream which divides England and Scotland, while the bridegroom is a shepherd belonging to the Teviothead district of the neighbouring Scottish county of Roxburgh. The English marriage laws do not allow of a marriage at a private house. It was desired that the marriage should take place at the bride's house, and to get over the difficulty the services of a Scottish minister were obtained to perform the cèremony, but it was necessary that the wedding should be solemnised on Scottish ground. Accordingly it was decided to have the marriage performed at the place indicated. The bridegroom's party travelled five miles over the hills from the nearest railway station, and were joined by the bride's party, who walked down the hill to the spot. The customary "young men's race" was run after the marriage, and the party then recrossed the stream and mounted the hill to the bride's house.

The M'Grigor Obelisk in the Duthie Park.

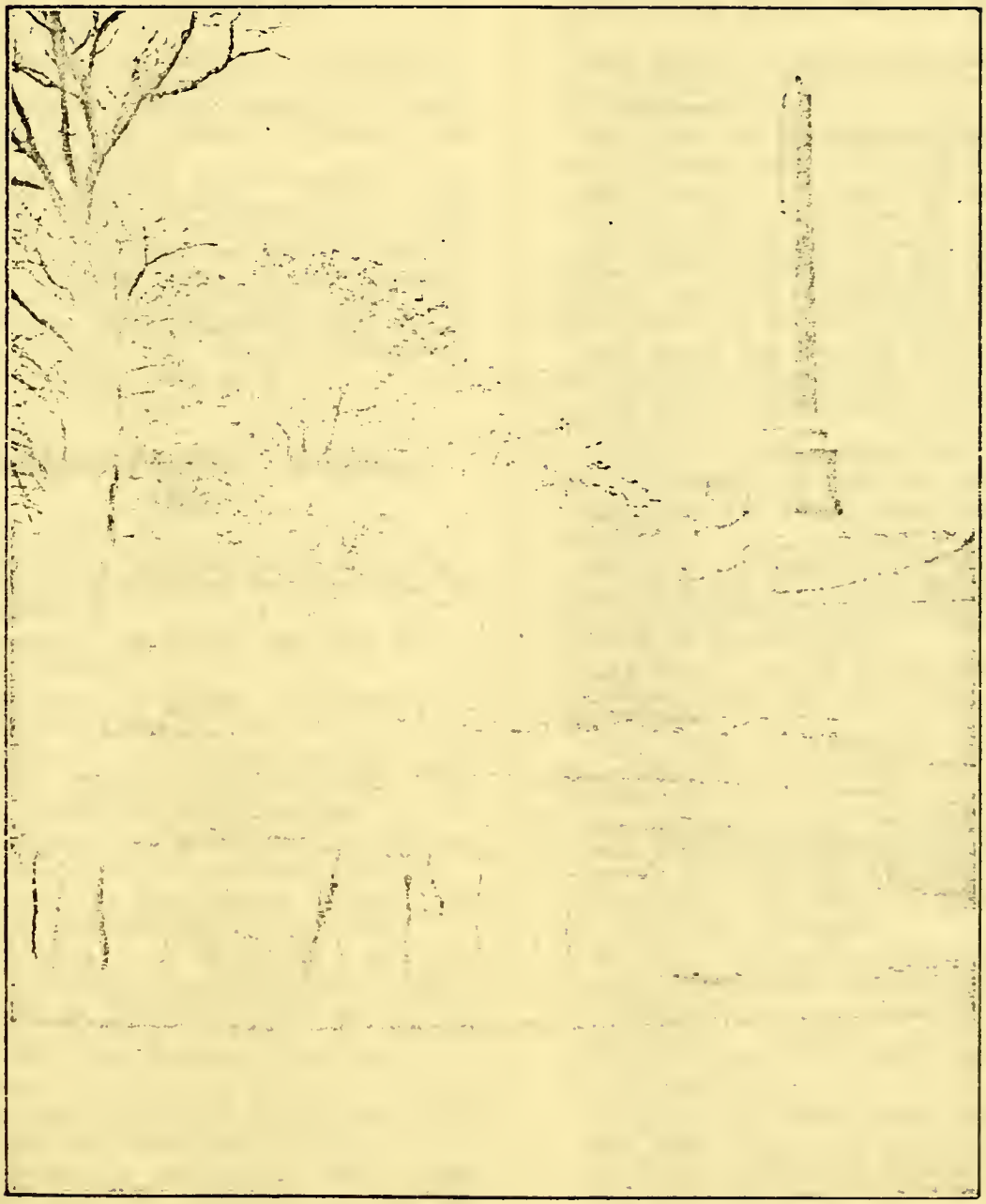
The following additional inscription has just been cut on the obelisk to the memory of Sir James M'Grigor, Bt., K.C.B., M.D., who for thirty-six years held the office of Director-General of the Army Medical Department:—

"This obelisk, erected in 1860 in the quadrangle of Marischal College by the widow and near relatives of Sir James M'Grigor, was removed to its present site, with the full consent of his representatives, when the University buildings were extended in 1906."

9th April, 1910.

The Origin of the Numerals.

The origin of the Arabic numerals, 1, 2, 3, 4, etc., as we write them, has no complete and satisfactory explanation, though the literature of the subject is enormous. Major Woodruff, who is perhaps best known for his theories on the devastating effect of too much sunlight on the peoples who have been born in temperate and cloudy climates, suggests that numbers have been slowly evolved from ancient tally marks. If letters had their origin in the first crude attempts to represent things and ideas the numerals must necessarily have their origin in the first crude attempt to record numbers. Thus while the origin of the number 1 is evident, the number 2 might be derived from a Z-like form, in which for ease of writing the two horizontal tally marks were joined by a stroke; and the number 3 from three horizontal tally marks similarly joined. By taking the figures as employed in Chinese and Indian manuscripts Major Woodruff makes out a very interesting case for the evolutionary forms, though it is not possible to show how he does it without the aid of his diagrams and hieroglyphics. He believes that the Chinese were the inventors, and that traders carried them into India. The first three numerals in Chinese and Indian are alike; the Nepal 9 is like an evolutionary Chinese 9. Doubtless there was a considerable interval between the date of introduction of the numerals into India and the date of the oldest surviving forms—an interval in which their origin was forgotten, if it was ever known. This fully accounts for the fact that in some cases considerable change has taken place. Probably many of the ancient Indian evolutionary forms will never be found, nevertheless those now known are within the bounds of ordinary variation of writing. They were undoubtedly introduced while some still retained an evident form of tally-marks, which led to the frequent writing of four and five with four and five strokes respectively. Some of the old Indian fives are almost identical with the Chinese original form, and in the six there are undoubted affinities, the sevens are closer still, and nines identical."—"Morning Post."



The McGrigor Obelisk. Duthie Park.

The Great Enfranchised.

In September last, the roll of electors for each parish was fixed on the parish church door for inspection.

In a parish in Forfarshire, the schoolmaster noticed that the name of a labouring man had been omitted. Accordingly, he wrote to the assessor about the accidental omission. The assessor sent the man a schedule to fill up for the appeal court.

What was the astonishment of the assessor, when, two days afterwards, he received the schedule with this strange signature, "I voted for Maister Barclay." [James W. Barclay, then M.P. for Forfarshire.]

The stupid man was really incapable of understanding what a signature was. The Sheriff was, however, satisfied with the claim made by the schoolmaster and the minister, and admitted the name of the labourer. Should such ignorance be crowned with a vote for a member of Parliament?—"New Scotch Anecdotes," by J. Gordon M'Pherson, F.R.S.E. (Glasgow, 1890), p. 87.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1848.

9th January. At Peterhead, Mrs Mary Robertson, relict of Robert Robertson, Esq. of Boddam, aged 76.

10th January. At Bervie, Mr John Whyte, Parochial Teacher.

30th January. At London, in his 76th year, John Morice of Tullos.

3rd February. At 5 Golden Square, Aberdeen, John Mitchell Campbell, Esq., late Surgeon, H.E.I.C.S., in his 51st year.

23rd February. At Banff, Margaret Murker, beloved wife of Rev. John Murker, aged 38.

3rd March. At Keith, Helen Lemmon, wife of William Longmore, Esq., Bank Agent.

20th February. At Newburgh, Margaret Perry, relict of Thomas Black, Esq.; and at same place, on 24th inst., Helen, and on the 26th inst. Jane Mary, daughters of the late James Perry, Esq., Surgeon, Bilbo Park.

7th March. At Manse of Tarland, Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the late Rev. Andrew Watson, Minister of Tarland and Migvie.

1st March. At Bridgefield, Miss Violet Robertson, aged 75, daughter of the late Andrew Robertson, Esq. of Foveran.

12th March. At Balgownie, Catherine Anne, daughter of Henry David Forbes, Esq. of Balgownie.

12th March. Here, Robert Brown, Advocate, aged 37.

19th March. At Aberdeen, Mr Thomas Spark, late Treasurer of the Aberdeen Infirmary, in his 92nd year.

14th March. At Oldmeldrum, Elizabeth, eldest surviving daughter of the late James Garioch, Esq. of Gariochsford.

21st March. At Blackhouse Toll-bar, near Peterhead, Mr Peter Still, author of "The Cottar's Sunday," and other poems.

22nd March. At Peterhead, Maxwell Gordon Forbes, Surgeon, in his 49th year.

5th April. Here, Rev. Alexander Straith, Master of the English School of this city, aged 43.

29th March. At Sunnybank, Isabella Helen, fourth daughter of the late John Paton, Esq. of Grandhome.

4th April. At Ruthrieston, Jean Adamson, wife of Lieut. Andrew Reid, R.N.

27th April. At Crown Terrace, George Hogarth, senior, Esq., aged 73.

18th April. At St Andrews, aged 86, Miss Jane Brown, daughter of the late Professor Brown, and sister of the late Very Rev. Principal Brown of Marischal College.

21st April. At Boyndie Street, Banff, Mr James Brown, Manufacturer, in his 66th year.

19th April. At Aberdeen, Mrs Forbes of Inverernan.

1st May. At Kincardine O'Neil, John Addison, Schoolmaster of Rathven, aged 31.

3rd May. At Banff, Miss Grant of Eden, aged 71.

5th May. At Eastfield, Miss Ann Hamilton, eldest daughter of the late Robert Hamilton, LL.D., Professor of Mathematics in Marischal College, in her 77th year.

16th May. At 118 Crown Street, William Mortimer, M.D., late H.E.I.C.S., Madras Establishment.

21st May. At Aberdeen, Isabella, third daughter of Rev. Alexander Reid, Minister of Kildrummy.

2nd January. At Windsor, New South Wales, William Farquharson Stewart, Surgeon, formerly of Woodside, Aberdeen, aged 35.

22nd May. At Muir of Rhynie, James Paterson, Esq., Surgeon.

7th June. At Manse of New Deer, Isabella Munro, wife of Rev. James Welsh, Minister of that parish.

25th May. Suddenly, at Peterhead, Mr [George] Skelton [shipowner], of Invernettie Lodge, aged 59.

7th July. At Ellon Castle, Mrs Gordon of Ellon, aged 61.

1st July. At Manse of Rathen, Rev. William Cock, in his 91st year.

12th July. At 3 Denburn, Mr William Reid, Teacher, aged 62.

12th July. At Longside, Rev. John Imray, Minister of that parish.

22nd July. At Whitehill, Grange, Helen Primrose, wife of Rev. James Miller, late of Huntly, in her 53rd year.

19th July. At Macduff, Dr Alexander Smith, Staff-Surgeon, aged 53.

27th July. At Mile-End, William Allen, Merchant, Aberdeen.

1st August. At 77 Dee Street, Aberdeen, Elizabeth Campbell, relict of Alexander Cochran, Esq., aged 63.

8th August. Here, Deacon James Collie, Manufacturer, aged 71.

10th August. At the Manse, Chapel of Garioch, George Greig [father of Rev. James Greig, parish minister], aged 81.

9th September. At the Manse, Rayne, Mrs Ann Gray, widow of Rev. Alexander Cushny of Oyne, in her 80th year.

16th August. At Manse of Speymouth, Rev. John Gordon, Minister of Speymouth, in his 51st year.

9th September. At Peterhead, of typhus fever, John Johnston, M.D., aged 39.

21st September. At Dudwick, in her 90th year, Carolina Stewart, youngest daughter of John Stewart, Esq., late Professor of Mathematics in Marischal College, and wife of George Mair, Esq.

20th September. At Manse of Clatt, Mrs Walker, senior, aged 80.

24th September. Here, in her 76th year, Helen, eldest daughter of the late Rev. William Duff, Minister of Foveran.

1st October. Here, Janet Bentley, wife of William Littlejohn, Banker, Aberdeen.

3rd October. From concussion of the brain, in consequence of a carriage accident, Francis Garden Campbell of Troup and Glenlyon, aged 29.

8th October. At 20 Union Row, Mr Andrew Thomson, late Builder, aged 71.

7th October. At Cotton, Margaret Erskine, aged 46, wife of Williamson Rust of Auchinclech.

11th October. At Logie-Elphinstone, Sir Robert Dalrymple Horn Elphinstone, Bart., in his 83rd year.

15th October. At Albyn Place, Jane, eldest daughter of William Robertson, Esq., M.D., younger of Foveran, in her 52nd year.

18th October. At Springbank Terrace, Miss Helen Henderson, daughter of the late Andrew Henderson, M.D., of Aberdeen.

22nd October. At Ballater, Mr Patrick Mitchell, third son of the late Rev. Dr Mitchell of Kemnay.

4th September. At Lahore, Lieutenant James P. Giles, 73rd Bengal N.I., eldest son of James Giles, R.S.A.

31st October. At Dunoon, Erskine William Burnett, youngest son of the late John Burnett, Esq. of Kemnay, aged 19.

7th November. At 1 St Nicholas Street, Charles Walker, A.M. of King's College, aged 25.

12th November. At Peterhead, Mrs Amelia Sims, widow of Andrew Sims, Esq., in her 96th year.

14th November. At Clunie, aged 73, Mrs Chalmers, relict of Alexander Chalmers, Esq. of Clunie.

17th November. Here, in his 83rd year, Alexander Brown, Esq., Bookseller, sometime Provost of Aberdeen.

8th December. At 86 Loch Street, Helen, second daughter of Alexander Ogston of Ardoe, aged 10.

4th December. James Daniel Sheriff-Clerk Depute, aged 23.

14th December. Here, James Gibbon, late Merchant, aged 74.

21st December. At her house, Union Street, Jane Margaret, third daughter of Alexander Morison of Bognie, and widow of Alexander Gordon of Newton, in her 82nd year.

Queries.

470. Dictionary of Ancient Scottish Language.—In the beginning of the last century a prospectus was issued inviting gentlemen to subscribe to a "Dictionary of the Ancient Language of Scotland, by Robert Allan, Surgeon, F.A.S., Edinburgh." The first number of the work (there is a copy in King's College Library, Aberdeen) bears date 1807, and was published by Longmans, Hurst, Rees, and Company, London. Were further numbers issued, and what is known of Dr Allan?

G.

471. A Rhyming Epitaph.—The "Aberdeen Journal," July 9, 1817, p. 4, contains the following:—

Here lies the smith, to wit Tom Gowk,
His father and his mither,
Wi' Dick and Neil, and Meg and Jock,
And a' the Gowks thegither.
When on the yird, my wife and I
'Greed desperate ill wi' ither:
But here, withoutten strife or din,
We tak' a nap thegither.

Where is the stone situated?

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

472. Douglass of Tilquhilly.—Where could I find an accurate and fairly full genealogical deduction of this family?

D.

473. Thomas Gordon, Schoolmaster, Daviot.—Can any reader oblige me with the date of death and age of Thomas Gordon, schoolmaster, Daviot, who was a son of William Gordon, schoolmaster, Moss-side, Monymusk? A Latin inscription on a tombstone at Daviot commemorates two daughters of the former.

G.

Answers.

449. Captain David Scott, Royal Navy.—Colonel William Johnston, Newton Dee, Murdo, informs me that Captain (afterwards Rear-Admiral) David Scott, R.N., died at Berryden House, Aberdeen, 5th July, 1852, aged 78. He was the father of George Gordon Scott, of the Admiralty Office (Mar. Col., 1834-35), who died in his 90th year at Blackheath in December, 1908 (see paragraph in the "Free Press of 23rd December, 1908). Admiral Scott's wife was Anne Gibbon. She died 4th September, 1832, and was the daughter of James Gibbon, shipmaster, Aberdeen. A table-stone in St Nicholas Churchyard, Aberdeen, on the right-hand side is inscribed—

"Sacred to the memory of Anne Gibbon, the beloved wife of Captain D. Scott, R.N., who departed this life the 4th September, 1832, and of their daughter Sophia, who died the 28th October, 1831, aged 16 years. Also of David, their eldest son, who died in India the 27th November, 1839, aged 22 years. Also that beloved husband and father Rear-Admiral David Scott, who died at Berryden the 5th July, 1852, aged 78 years. Also James G. Scott, their third son, who died 7th March, 1872, aged 52 years. Also of Eliza, second daughter of the above Rear-Admiral Scott, who died at Aberdeen on the 30th July, 1879, aged 74 years. Also of Margaret Campbell, eldest daughter of the above Rear-Admiral Scott, who died at Aberdeen on the 31st August, 1885, aged 82 years."

The Gibbons have a burial-place at the old churchyard at Nigg. (Jervise's "Epitaphs" II., p. 16.)

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

466. The Pawnbroker's Three Brass Balls.—The generally accepted view is that the three brass (or golden) balls of the pawnbroker came into use for indicating the premises of a money-lender owing to three gilded pills forming the arms of the Medici family, who were the richest merchants of Florence and the greatest money-lenders. Dr Brewer, in his "Dictionary of Phrase and Fable," says the three gilded pills were adopted by the Medici family as their arms in allusion to their profession of medicine, but he adds that Roscoe, in his "Life of Lorenzo de Medici," gives a different solution. According to this version, Averardo de' Medici, a commander under Charlemagne, slew the giant Mugello, whose club he bore as a trophy, and this club or mace had three iron balls, which the family adopted as their device. The Lombards were the first money-lenders in England, and in all probability brought the sign of the three brass balls with them.

A.

468. Charles Gordon Rose.—A genealogical table of the old Gordons of Blelack is given by Rev. John G. Michie in his "History of Logie-Coldstone" (Aberdeen, 1896). It begins with John Gordon, of the house of Abergeldie, slain at the battle of Corrichie in 1563. The one prominent member of the family apparently was Charles Gordon, known as "the rebel laird." He was out in the '45, the part taken by him resulting in the burning of the mansion-house and the forfeiture of half the estate. He narrowly escaped apprehension on several occasions. In 1784, the forfeited lands were legally restored to him; and he died in 1785, leaving an only child, Isabel, who became the wife of George Forbes of Skellater, and is believed to have died without issue. His successor was the grandson of his sister Helen, Charles Rose Gordon, who, "having light hair (that of the Gordons being dark), was known as 'the Red Laird.' He left a half-witted son, Keith Gordon, who died almost a pauper in 1869, aged 73, at Fairnrae, in Towie." Charles Rose Gordon sold the estate in 1794 to William Gordon, a native of the district, who had left it in early life for Dundee, where he carried on the trade of a vintner; he was, in consequence, styled "the vintner laird." (See also Jervise's "Epitaphs" I., 202.)

A.

No. 108.—May 11, 1910.

The "Miraculous" Passage of the Spey.

A little book on "Duthil: Past and Present," by Rev. Donald Maclean, minister of Free St Columba Church, Edinburgh, which has just been published (Inverness: "Northern Chronicle" Office) recalls a very singular incident in the annals of the parish. The book has a good deal to say about "the men" who figure so conspicuously in the history of the religious life of the Highlands—ardent evangelical laymen, who rivalled (and sometimes usurped) the functions of the regularly-ordained and "placed" ministers. One of the most prominent of these latter-day "men" was William Grant, Slochd, Duthil, who was not only venerated for his piety, but believed by many to be gifted with the spirit of prophecy. He had long been desirous that what is (or was) known as the "miracle" of the passage of the Spey should be commemorated, and on his deathbed he left instructions that a plan for doing so he had designed should be carried out. What followed is thus told by Mr Maclean—

"In William's declining years he is said to have had a vision the reality and significance of which he did not doubt. On this vision hangs a tale, which may be interesting or amusing, according to the mental viewpoint from which it is to be considered. Unfortunately, it was not awanting in those elements which, when disturbed, can still awaken feelings of resentment. There was a persistent tradition in the parish of a Morayshire lady who was reared in affluence, but died in penury. She married a man of the people in the Coigs of Strathdearn—made famous later as the birthplace of the renowned Dr Angus Mackintosh, of Tain. Here she lived for a time, and was held in great respect as an eminently pious woman. Having migrated to Abernethy, on her death-bed there she gave strict orders that her remains should be laid to rest alongside the dust of her husband's forbears in the ancient churchyard at Dalarossie. On being told of the difficulty of crossing the dangerous and treacherous Spey, she still insisted on her request, assuring those around her that a passage would be opened up for them when they reached the water.

"Here the traditions differ. According to one, when the funeral party reached the river, and the coffin was brought to its brink, the waters suddenly divided, and a passage through the dry bed of the river was effected. The other is that the ferry boat, which was on the opposite side, slipped its moorings without any human intervention, and sailed across to the waiting party, who deposited the coffin in it, and thus got the remains across. The former of the two traditions, however, was most universally accepted as the true one. But the actual place of crossing was known only to a few, to whom the knowledge was transmitted in oral tradition. It was the revelation of this obscurity to William Grant, who had never seen the spot, and yet described it with a minuteness of detail which included even the size and shape of the bush which marked it, that strengthened his own belief and that of his followers in the authenticity of the tradition, as well as the reality of the vision. He accordingly gave instructions that a certain slate slab (also pointed out to him in the vision) in Slochd should be hewn out without the aid of hammer or chisel (for the sound of no iron or wood instrument was to be heard thereon), and set up as a memorial stone to mark to all generations this miraculous crossing of the Spey. These visions seem to such as have not sufficient regard for the truth that 'the secret of the Lord is with them that fear Him,' as spiritual phenomena which, by a cold analysis, can be proved to be an exaggerated product of the violent activities of the contemplative spirit.

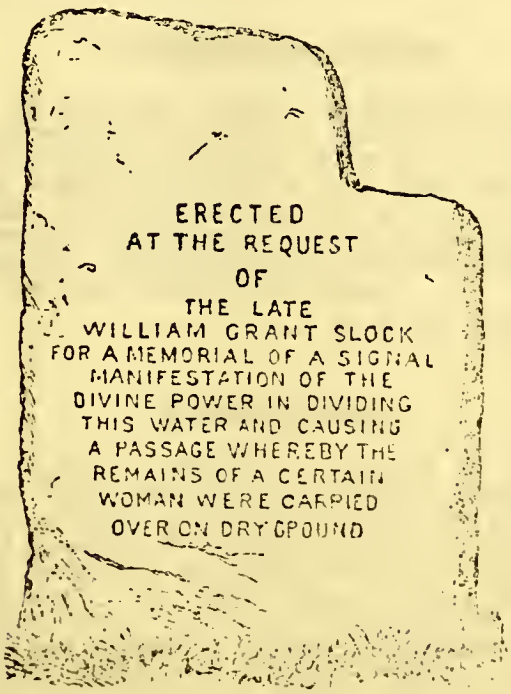
"There were people in Duthil who believed in William's vision as well as his piety, and after his death they took steps to give effect to his wish. Forgetful, however, of his last request, they applied both hammer and chisel to the prescribed stone, first in cutting it out of its native bed, and then in inscribing on it an elaborate history of the person and event it was intended to commemorate. When all things were ready, the stone was laid on a cart, and a solemn procession was formed, which wended its way to the famous spot, where it was erected with befitting ceremony. On the following Sabbath a larger crowd came to see the stone than went to hear the minister. Rev. Mr Logan unsparingly denounced those Sabbath-breakers. Youthful and ardent spirits in the congregation inferred that the minister would not regard with disfavour the removal of the cause of the Sabbath-breaking. So it happened that, in the stillness of night, in the following week, some unknown persons smashed the stone and threw the fragments into the Spey on the north side of the river, not far from Boat of Garten Station, where interested persons may still see them.

"A conflict of bitter feeling arose between the party of 'sacrilege' and the party of 'superstition,' which might have been avoided by the display of some humour and a real respect for the religious aspect of the affair, as well as some mutual forbearance. It is perhaps a pity that the stone was not allowed to remain, as it would form a subject of study to the antiquarians of the Field Club at Inverness of greater interest than the discovery of a St Andrew's cross at Morile, Tomatin, which threw one of their notables into ecstasies, and the local people into merriment, as the discovered cross was nothing more poetic than incisions on a boulder for the iron frame of a threshing mill."

More precise particulars, however, are furnished by the late Dr William Forsyth, the minister of Abernethy, in his work "In the Shadow of Cairngorm" (Inverness, 1900). The

dying charge of William Grant, says Dr Forsyth, was in due time faithfully carried out—

"The stone was prepared, and with much seriousness, as if it had been the Ark of the Covenant, was carried to the Spey and set up in the place appointed, 9th March, 1865. It is said that the consecration ceremony was very solemn. There was praise and prayer, and the stone was set up for all time, like the memorial stones of the Jordan, to bear witness to the miraculous passage of the Spey. 'It is right, however, to record,' says Sir Arthur Mitchell ('The Past in the Present,' p. 253), 'that the ceremony is not always described as in every respect solemn. It is alleged, for instance, by some that the cart on which the stone was conveyed from Slochd to Garten was old and rickety, and broke down by the way; that the horse which was harnessed to it was frail and not equal to its work except under constant stimulation; and that the people followed the cart smoking their short black pipes. Whether these things are wholly or partially true, or not true at all, it is certain that the erection of this memorial stone was seriously and earnestly gone about as a pious act. Luckily, in the very year of its erection (1865), I saw the stone, and then made the sketch of it which is here given.'"



This extraordinary event, continues Dr Forsyth, caused much excitement and contention, was much discussed, and was denounced as superstitious. "The result was that an Anti-Stone party was formed, and one day, to the surprise of the country, the sacred stone disappeared. It had been ruthlessly broken up, and the fragments thrown into the Spey. This daring deed was done, under cloud of night, 20th February, 1867. The secret has been well kept. To this day the names of the perpetrators are not known."

Not the least curious circumstance in the whole of this singular affair is that the miraculous crossing of the Spey is purely legendary. One account places it in the beginning of the thirteenth century, the lady who prophesied that a passage across the river would be found for her after death being said to belong to the family of Mackintosh of Kyllachy, and to be married to a Patrick Grant (of the Grants of Tullochgorum), settled on the farm of Lurg, in Abernethy. But, according to other accounts, the lady lived in the sixteenth or seventeenth century. "In short, the tradition has no fixed form, and the measure of its variations is exceedingly great." Delightful, however, is one version of the miraculous passage—

"On arriving at the river side, at the place pointed out, the waters were instantly divided, and the procession walked over on dry ground! The people, on observing an immense shoal of fish leaping and dancing in the dry bed of the stream, were tempted to try and capture some of the salmon, which thus found themselves so suddenly out of their natural element; but the angry waters refused to countenance the unmerciful onslaught, and returned once more to their channel. That the men thus engaged should have escaped with their lives was considered almost as great a miracle as the former one, and a 'Te Deum' was sung by the entire multitude for their miraculous deliverance from the perils of the waters."

A Curiosity in Banffshire Surnames.

In his "Lectures on the Mountains," 1860 (2nd Series, p. 115), W. Grant Stewart quotes from an "Old MS. History of the Grants" a curious case of change of surnames, which has puzzled north country historians:—

James Na-Creach, or "Jacobus Rapinorum," so called for his attempts and daring success, was remarkable in avenging his brother-in-law's death, which was occasioned as follows—

Gordon, Baron of Brackly, by some fatality being menaced by the country people about him, his friends made their address and complaint to his chieftain, the Earl of Huntly. The Earl of Huntly's slackness in avenging his kinsman's death occasioned this proverb—"If ever I kill a man, he shall be a Gordon," for it is observed that they are not busy in avenging their kinsmen's quarrel. At length, the Baron's friends make their address and complaint to Shames-na-Creach, the Laird of Grant, who being exasperated at the account, undertakes to avenge. Forthwith, a party of men, beginning at the upper end, destroy and slay all the men of the country in revenge of Brackly's murder. The Earl of Huntly, prompted by James-na-Creach's forwardness, joins in the slaughter; the next day, as Huntly

was burying the slain, he occasionally finds a great number of orphans, whose parents had been killed the day before. The earl, moved with compassion, ordered such as were most lively to be carried away to his castle, at Strathboggie, to the number of three or four score of them, and commanded to make a long trough of wood, in which such provision as was thought convenient was put; the poor orphans, sitting in a row, on each side of the trough, ate what was bestowed on them. Once, James-na-Creach, visiting the earl, is, by way of pastime after dinner, invited by him to see the little ones coming and lobbing at their trough. With such admirable fancy was he taken that, anon, saying—"My Lord, I was as forward as you in the destruction of their fathers, and it is as reasonable that I be a sharer in the preservation of their children"; therefore, sweeping away one side of the sitters about the trough, ordered them away to Strathspey, and maintained them there. Such of those that were brought in Strathspey were called Grants, and such as lived in Huntly's land were called Gordons, and sometimes Sangsters; they are to this day called Slick-na-mar—ie., trough men. There are several families of the Slick-na-mar in Strathspey, such as Macfinlay Roys, in Culchoich Beg, and M'Jameses, in Inverallan parish. . . .

Oldmeldrum Prison.

In 1775, the "prison" at Oldmeldrum does not seem to have been an honour to its county. It is described officially as "a vault of 14 feet in breadth by 10 feet in lenth, upon the south side of the meal house, with a window to the south of ten inches in breadth by 21 inches in height. The door is on the north end and within the forsaid meal house."

M. R. R. M'G.-G.

George Walker.

In the "Journal's" memoir of the author of "Aberdeen Awa'" (a book I have often heard about, but never have had the pleasure of perusing), I think an error has crept in. It is stated that he wrote verses, signed "Gerald Gower." It should have been "Gerlake Gower," for that was the name on some poetry he had printed at L. and J. Smith's printing office, M'Combie's Court, in which I was temporarily engaged in 1861. I asked the overseer, who was a personal friend and quondam apprentice Alexander Milne — "Who is this, Gerlake Gower—is he a Welshman?" He laughed and replied—"Oh, no, he is a true Scot, and one of our leading booksellers. Gerlake Gower is simply George Walker transmogrified." He was right. It was a perfect anagram of the name, which "Gerald Gower," owing to special requirements, cannot be.

Alba.

Quaint Epitaphs.

The martyrdom of certain of the Covenanters is told in epitaphs on tombstones on Magus Moor. Near the monument of Archbishop Sharp there is a stone enclosed within a parapet bearing the following inscription:—

Here lies Thomas Brown, James Wood, Andrew Sword, John Weddell, and John Clyde, who suffered martyrdom on Magus Muir for their adherence to the Word of God and Scotland's Covenanted Work of Reformation. November 25, 1679.

On the reverse side of the stone are the lines:—

Cause we at Bothwell did appear,
Perjurious oaths refused to swear.
Cause we Christ's cause would not condemn,
We were sentenced to death by men
Who raged against us in such fury,
Our dead bodies they did not bury,
But up on poles did hing us high,
Triumphs of Babel's victory.
Our lives we feared not to the death,
But constant proved to our last breath.

That "martyr memorial" was restored in 1877, and about the same time there was also restored another stone, erected in 1783 in memory of one Andrew Gallin, who suffered at the Gallowee of Edinburgh in July, 1683, and afterwards "was hung upon a pole in Magus Muir and lyeth hiar," as the inscription sets forth. These lines are appended:—

A faithful martyr here doth ly,
A witness against perjury,
Who cruelly was put to death
To gratify proud Prelates wrath,
They cut his hands ere he was dead,
And after that struck off his head.
To Magus Muir they did him bring,
His body on a pole did hing;
His blood under the alter cries
For vengeance on Christ's enemies.

In the churchyard of Fogo, in Berwickshire, there is a stone with a curious epitaph, which bluntly sets forth a certain laird's exaltation of his estates to the position of his god. It reads as follows:—

Here lyes the body and the banes
Of the michty Laird of Whinkerstanes.
He had nae other God ava'
But Rosiebank and Charterha'.

The following inscription, which is to be seen in Gordon Churchyard, tells of the physical as well as the mental qualities of a schoolmaster:—

Ah, he was great in body and in mind,
A loving husband and a father kind.
As he most men excided in his stature,
So he exciled in his literature.
But although he is gone and greatly mist,
God's will be done, we hope he is blest.

—"Edinburgh Evening News."

Concerning Fairs.

There is a small parish in the county of Peebles, next the Upper Ward of Lanarkshire, which has a history of great interest, and must have been more famous long ago than it is now. This parish of Skirling was made a burgh of barony by James VI. Its proprietor, Sir James Cockburn, was a man of some influence and a Court favourite. For many years, Skirling was the scene of three great annual fairs, held in May, June, and September respectively. The neighbouring parish of Broughton had only one annual fair, but the two villages of Skirling and Broughton are united by the "Drove Loan," the thoroughfare for cattle from the Borders, and even the north of England. It is complete to this day, a landmark of the past, and interesting to all antiquarians.

Skirling was an agricultural centre—a place for the sale of cattle and horses, and also for the interchange of commodities; the meeting-place of horse coupers and cattle dealers from north, south, east, and west. Skirling June fair was at one time the largest fair in Scotland. It must have been a scene of great animation—a motley gathering of ballad singers, hawkers, pickpockets, recruiting sergeants, and pedlars; and from all accounts there was a good deal of hard drinking in the three public-houses. The minister of Skirling in 1765 was Rev. William Howe, who had a son, James Howe, who was a famous painter of animals, and has been called the Landseer of Scotland. His picture of Skirling fair, which is still extant, is a work of genius, bringing out the humours of the scene.

The fact that Skirling was made a free burgh of barony in 1592 led to the creation of the office of baron baillie, the holder of it being bound to attend the fairs to settle disputes and keep order. Ultimately, the Skirling fairs had to give way, for the village was too remote and travelling to it too expensive and laborious. The attendance fell off, and the end of the fairs came at last. They were transferred to Biggar, in the next county, two miles off. In the evolution of events, the Biggar markets gave way to auction marts, which were a sore trial to the older farmers in the late 'seventies, when the present writer first knew the parish of Skirling.

There were many ruins of old houses in the parish. One of them went by the name of Waulkmill, and was the home of Peter Gillies, the Covenanter of Skirling, who sheltered one of the preachers, and was reported to the Privy Council by Rev. James Buchan, the curate, and had to flee for his life to Muiravonside, only to fall into the hands of another curate, Andrew Ure, who was rabbled by the people of the parish, and set himself to compass the death of the brave Covenanter of Skirling. Peter Gillies is one of the heroes of the Covenant. He stood faithful to the very end, fell into the hands of the brutal soldiery, and met his death at Manchline by hanging.

The minister at the Disruption in 1843 was Dr William Hanna, the son-in-law and biographer of Dr Thomas Chalmers. The patron—Sir Alexander Carmichael—had offered the living to Rev. Robert Murray M'Cheyne, who refused it. Dr Hanna was minister of East Kilbride, and had no scruple in leaving the Radical weavers of that place for the quiet rural charge of Skirling. It was interesting to meet the old men who, as farmers' sons, went from Skirling to East Kilbride to "flit" the minister, and help to found the Free Church at the Disruption. There is a link between Skirling and Aberdeen in the fact that Dr W. P. Paterson, who began his professional career in the Aberdeen Divinity Chair, and succeeded Dr Flint in Edinburgh, is a native of Skirling parish. Dr Paterson is one of the finest scholars of our time, and likely to go far in the future readjustment of Church life, which cannot be deferred much longer.

J. A.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1849.

2nd January. At Fetternear, James Michael Leslie, Esq. of Balquhain.

21st January. At 40 Bon-Accord Street, Jane B. Ferguson, wife of Alexander Muir of Loirston.

19th January. At 2 Guestrow, George Clark, Esq., late Bookseller, aged 71.

5th February. At Aberdeen, Ann Phillips, wife of Robert Mitchell, Manager, Aberdeen, Leith, and Clyde Shipping Company, aged 59.

1st February. At Camphill, Joseph Emslie, Esq. of Camphill, in his 88th year.

16th February. At Crathes, in his 61st year, Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys, Bart., Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Kincardine.

20th February. At 42 Schoolhill, Alexander Fraser, M.D., Esq. of Sheddocksley, aged 60.

28th February. At 16 Albyn Place, Ann Burnett, wife of George Marquis, Accountant.

12th February. At 2 Carmelite Street, Banff, John Duff, A.M., third son of the late Rev. William Duff, Minister of Grange.

2nd March. Here, Mr Alexander Hall, Shipbuilder, aged 89.

4th March. At Manse of Forgue, Rev. James Cordiner, Minister of that parish.

5th March. At Huntly, William Smith, Esq., Architect, in his 59th year.

3rd March. At Aldunie, Cabrach, Alexander Morison, A.M., Teacher there, in his 81st year.

10th March. At Manse of Newhills, Jessie Allan, daughter of Rev. James Allan, Minister there.

3rd March. At the Parsonage, Fraserburgh, Mary, wife of Rev. Charles Pressley, aged 32.

18th March. At Crathes Castle, in her 85th year, Lady Burnett of Leys, relict of Sir Robert Burnett, seventh Baronet, and fourth daughter of General Dalrymple Horn Elphinstone of Logie-Elphinstone.

25th March. At Ardmurdo, Mrs Partridge.

29th March. At his house in Silver Street, Major-General David Forbes, C.B., in his 78th year.

1st April. At 15 Union Terrace, Mary Stewart, wife of P. Farquharson of Whitehouse, and only daughter of the late William Stewart of Lesmurdie.

27th March. Captain William Philip, in his 74th year, the oldest shipmaster in Aberdeen.

6th April. At Berryden Cottage, Sarah Ann Memess, widow of Rev. James Watt, one of the Masters of the Grammar School, Aberdeen.

6th April. At Don Mills, Mr Gideon Kemlo, Miller and Grain Merchant, aged 64.

8th April. At Hillside, Portlethen, Mrs Robert Walker [Elspet Bartlet, aged 31].

7th April. At Cairnballoch, William M'Combie, senior, in his 79th year.

10th April. At 6 Chanonry, Old Aberdeen, Margaret Helen, eldest daughter of the late Rev. Gilbert Gerard, D.D., Professor of Divinity in King's College.

11th April. At 65 Netherkirkgate, Adam Coutts, Advocate in Aberdeen, aged 72.

12th April. At Kincurdy Jane C. Mathison, wife of Rev. R. Milne Miller of Kincurdy, Minister of Aboyne, aged 58.

20th April. At 134 Crown Street, John Gray, Merchant.

25th April. At Heathcot, Miss Margaret Garioch, in her 80th year.

30th April. At Manse of Forgue, in his 32nd year, James Douglas Cordiner, son of the late Rev. James Cordiner, Minister of that parish.

3rd May. At the Manse, Kildrummy, Rev. Alexander Reid, in his 67th year.

At Middlehill, Monquhitter, of malignant scarlet fever, on 20th February, Mary, aged 6; on 25th February, Helen, aged 14; on 27th February, Isabel, aged 12; on 1st March, James, aged 14; on 7th March, Jean, aged 2; on 10th March, Ann, aged 10; and on 29th March, George, aged 8, children of William Beaton, farmer there.

16th May. At Manse of Echt, Rev. William Ingram, Minister of that parish, in his 80th year.

2nd June. Here, Major Charles Grant, late of the 50th Regiment, in his 64th year.

30th May. At Auchinhove Cottage, Lumphanan, Mrs Farquharson of Auchinhove and Senior of Finzean, aged 81.

12th June. At Schoolhouse, Monymusk, Rev. John Donald, Parochial Schoolmaster, in his 36th year.

29th June. At 15 Skene Row, Jane Haldane Skene, only daughter of Rev. Charles Skene, Minister of John Knox's Church, Aberdeen

23rd June. At 90 Union Street, Mr John Green, Builder.

27th June. At Springbank, Mr James Irvine, aged 84.

12th July. At Aberdeen, John Booth, Junior, Esq., aged 78 [founder in 1802 of the "Aberdeen Chronicle," and for some time a magistrate of Aberdeen].

29th July. At Ewen Place, Mr John Ewen, late Wood-Merchant in Aberdeen, aged 80.

13th August. At 21 Silver Street, Mrs Cromar, widow of Mr James Cromar, late Rector of the Grammar School.

4th August. At Druminnor, Alexander F[oulerton] Grant, Esq. of Druminnor, aged 76.

21st July. At Lancaster, United States, David Stewart, second son of the late John Robertson, Esq. of Foveran.

19th August. At Crown Court, Union Street, George Reid, Druggist, aged 36.

18th August. At Ballater, Major Peter Farquharson, H.E.I.C.S., aged 62.

18th August. At Daviot, Rev. James Clark, Schoolmaster, aged 49.

21st August. At the Parsonage, Oldmeldrum, Rev. William Robertson, M.A., in his 63rd year.

29th August. At Arrochie, Mrs Isabella Smith, relict of Mr Alexander Falconer, Arrochie, aged 80.

3rd September. At Raeden, aged 15, Alexander, fourth son of the late Rev. Maxwell Gordon, Minister of Foveran.

31st August. At the Manse, Glenmuick, Rev. Mr [Hugh] Burgess, Minister of that parish.

7th September. At 251 Union Street, West, Mrs Ann Innes, or Donald, eldest daughter of William Innes, Esq., late of Thurso, and relict of William Donald, Esq. of Broomhill, aged 75.

18th September. Here, Mr Thomas Emsly, aged 30, third son of the late Mr Emsly of Pitmedden.

21st September. At Guernsey, James Pirie, Esq., late goldsmith and jeweller in Aberdeen.

20th September. At Beechhill, Mr James Williamson, aged 78.

8th November. At Glassel House, aged 31, Andrew Ogilvie Farquharson, Esq., of the H.E.I.C.S., third son of John Farquharson of Haughton.

1st November. At Manse of Udny, Rev. John Leslie, in his 77th year.

20th November. At Fitzroy Square, London, Sir Charles Forbes, Bart. of Newe and Edinglassie, in his 77th year.

8th December. Here, Duncan Davidson of Tillychetly and Inchmarlo, in his 77th year.

19th December. At 50 Castle Street, Alexander Irvine, Esq., aged 73.

29th December. At the Manse, Cabrach, Rev. James Gordon, Minister of that parish, in his 66th year.

Queries.

474. William Annand of Belmont.—William Annand of Belmont, Aberdeen, was succeeded in 1845 by his brother, General Sir Alexander Annand of Sutton, in Surrey. I should be grateful to learn who now represents William, or where representing branches of the Annands may be found.

M. R. R. M'G. G.

475. The Keiths of Cairney.—The Keiths of Cairney were extant in 1666, but seem now extinct. One married a Strachan of Kincardine O'Neil. Were they freeholders or wadsetters, and where was Cairney? (I am told not in the parish of that name.)

M. R. R. M'G. G.

476. Francis Fraser.—Francis Fraser, late of H.M.'s ship Valentine, then surgeon in Aberdeen, afterwards of the Royal Irish Dragoons, who died between 1813 and 1816, seems to have been of Aberdeen stock. Can anyone oblige me with a note of his family? Was he a Fraser of Findrack?

M. R. R. M'G. G.

477. M'Kenzies of Dalmoir.—What is known respecting the genealogy of the family of M'Kenzie of Dalmoir or Dalmore, Braemar?

Y.

Answers.

368. William Lyle.—Lyle, the poet, lived for some time in Rochester, New York, and then went to Perth, Amboy, New Jersey, where I still hope to find some account of him.

James Gammack, LL.D.

430. Laurencekirk.—The best account of this place is given in Rev. W. R. Fraser's "History of the Parish and Burgh of Laurencekirk" (Edin., 1880). The patron saint of the parish is undoubtedly St Laurence, D. and M., whose feast is August 10, Louran Fair being held on the second Tuesday of August (O.S.). Some attempts have been made to connect the name with Laurence, Archbishop of Canterbury, but the date of the old fair is an effective bar to it. It is curious that when, in the thirteenth century, Bishop David de Bernham consecrated churches at Nigg, Arbuthnott, Kinneff, St Cyrus, Marykirk, etc., his list has no allusion to Conveth or Laurencekirk.

James Gammack, LL.D.

West Hartford, Conn.

459. Scottish Proverbs.—A good work which might be consulted is "Proverbs, Provincial Expressions, and Popular Rhymes of Scotland," by Andrew Cheviot (Paisley: Alexander Gardner, 1896).

G.

No. 109.—May 18, 1910.

"Auld Dubrach."

Peter Grant was born at Dubrach, Braemar, in the year 1714. His father rented the small holding of that name—probably situated a little above the Linn of Dee, and not in the vicinity of the "Dubrach Wood," in the more immediate neighbourhood of the village of Castleton. After reaching man's estate, he—as is yet frequently the case—became known by the name of his place of residence, to which in course of time the adjective "Auld" was prefixed. What education he received, if any, is not apparent, but certain it is that, while yet a mere youth, he became apprenticed to the ancient and honourable craft of tailor. At this vocation he continued without any eventful incident until the second Stuart "rising" occurred in 1745.

Peter Grant, like most other Braemar men of the period, was a staunch Jacobite, so when the standard of rebellion was raised, he abandoned the making and mending of tartan "duds," and cast aside needle, shears, and goose for the more effective broadsword. By this time, he was over thirty years of age, and well adapted to assist in upholding the claims of "Bonnie Prince Charlie." When the Jacobite army was reviewed on Glasgow Green, Peter was a private, but for some act of bravery performed by him at the battle of Prestonpans, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant, Jervise stating that he fought at Culloden as a sergeant-major. On that fatal field Grant fought well and bravely, but being forced to fly, he, along with some others, was made prisoner. Eventually conveyed to Carlisle, he was kept a close prisoner until it was found convenient to bring him to trial. Peter, however, deciding not to wait that function, succeeded in scaling the walls, and, despite the many miles that lay between him and home, ultimately managed to reach Braemar in safety.

On his return to Dubrach, Peter Grant at once resumed his former vocation, and it does not appear that he was subjected to further molestation for the part he took in the rebellion. Shortly afterwards—but in the same year, 1746—a neighbour of the name of Cumming was blessed with a child, for whom Peter was commissioned to make a "christening" cap. Not only did he do this, but he also attended the baptism of the infant, on whom the name of Mary was bestowed. In after years this child, whose acquaintance Peter thus early made, became his wife, although thirty-two years his junior.

Some years after his marriage—his father having presumably died—Peter Grant entered into the tenancy of Dubrach, by which cognomen he soon thereafter began to be locally known. With regard to the fruits of his union, some dubiety exists. One account has it that his family consisted of a son and a daughter—Peter and Anne. Another—and the one which seems the more authentic—places the number at six. These were three sons and three daughters—namely, John; Jean, afterwards Mrs Smith; Peter, a gardener in the north; Anne, who lived with and attended to her father; a daughter whose name I have not been able to ascertain; and William, a cattle dealer in a small way.

How long Peter Grant continued tenant of Dubrach I am unable to say, but that he held it for a period equivalent to at least two leases of nineteen years each seems apparent. At all events, when his last lease expired, he considered himself too old and frail to negotiate for its renewal. At or before this time, John, his eldest son, became tenant of the farm of Westside, Lethnot, Forfarshire, and thither "Dubrach" went, along with his wife and daughter, Anne. He does not appear, however, to have resided under the same roof as his son, but in a small cottage close by. It is said that Lord Panmure subsequently built a cottage for the old man, but this is doubtful, as he erected one for Anne Grant, after her father's death—an unnecessary proceeding if he had previously built one for her father.

During "Dubrach's" stay in Forfarshire, Rev. Alexander Symers was inducted to the Parish Church of Lethnot. His wife was a daughter of Mr Carnegie of Balmakie, near Arbroath, whose father had taken part in the rising of 1715, and for this he was penalised to an extent which ruined the family financially. Miss Robertson of Lude, an ardent Jacobite, promised, however, to procure a commission for his oldest son, and her own nephew, by advancing money to raise a regiment, which promise she fulfilled in 1745; hence the presence of Mr Carnegie at Culloden. This gentleman it was who acted as "Dubrach's" commanding officer on that field, so fatal to Jacobite aspirations.

When "Auld Dubrach" became aware that the newly-appointed minister's wife was a daughter of the officer under whom he had fought in his younger days, bygone memories strongly revived within him, and he could brook no delay in extending to her his heartfelt and loyal welcome. Immediately after Mr Symers's induction, the manse was put under repair, and while the work was in process, the minister and his wife were accommodated in one of the "out-houses." Early one morning the worthy pair were startled by the door being burst open, and an old man rushing towards the bed on which they lay, shouting and cracking his thumbs. Mrs Symers thought their strange visitor deranged, and requested the minister to rise and put him out, but he still advanced, exclaiming—"I maun see my bairn! I maun see my bairn!" The first exuberance of joy over, explanations followed; and from this unconventional introduction resulted a friendship which terminated only with life.

And now comes one of the most interesting incidents in Grant's career, but one on which, unfortunately, accounts are far from being in agreement. At dates variously given as 1820, 1821, and 1822, when "Dubrach" would be from 106 to 108 years of age, two gentlemen, tho Messrs Smart, corn merchants, Montrose—described in one account as "rambling for pleasure among the wilds of Lethnot"; in another as being grouse shooting, and residing with their sister, Mrs Leighton, at the farm of Drumcairn, near the Manse of Lethnot—chanced to meet with Grant, on his son's farm. Getting into conversation with the old man, they soon learned the salient points of his life. So interested were they that they called upon Rev. Mr Symers, and suggested that something should be done to enable "Dubrach" to spend the remainder of his days in comfort and independence. The minister heartily agreed, and pointed out that Grant held the unique position of being the only one alive who had fought against the reigning dynasty. It was resolved, therefore, that the King (George IV.) should be petitioned on his behalf. Hon. William Maule—afterwards Lord Panmure—was approached on the subject, and he promised that if a petition were got up, he would present it when the King came to Edinburgh in August, 1822.

So far, there seems little cause for dubiety; but accounts of the subsequent proceedings are rather contradictory. According to the popular and more romantic version, Lord Panmure resolved to present "Dubrach" in person to the King. For this purpose, he bought him a suitable dress in which to appear. This, however, the staunch old Jacobite would have none of; and, when the time arrived he donned the dress he had worn at Culloden. This has been described as "a tartan coat, kilt, brogues with large brass buttons on the uppers, a Glengarry bonnet with an eagle's feather in the front of it, and a pike-staff seven feet long, with a brass knob on the top, and ornamented with pretty blue tassels."

His presentation to King George, as related, is a somewhat sensational affair. "Dubrach" refused to unbonnet on being brought into the Royal presence, but stood defiantly facing the King, to whom he intimated his willingness, if but young again, to again "fecht for Charlie." The King became rather alarmed, but on Panmure explaining matters, and making the request known, George ordered Dubrach to be taken away, at the same time adding—"You are at liberty to have him booked for £50 a year." Then, and only then, did "Dubrach" unbonnet and tender thanks for the King's munificence.

This version, although doubtless the popular favourite, bears some improbabilities on the face of it. To unbonnet only after the King had conferred a pension seems rather a mercenary proceeding on the part of a recipient with such high spirit as "Dubrach" is said to have possessed. That he donned the dress he wore at Culloden seems also highly problematical. After his escape from Carlisle, common prudence would have dictated to him the necessity of disposing of the rebel garb at the earliest possible opportunity. To wear it would simply be to court recapture, and it was all but an impossibility for him to have done so in the long and weary journey, much of it through a hostile country, between Carlisle and Braemar.

The likelihood seems to be that "Dubrach" was never presented to the King. There is a very full record of all the proceedings of the Court during the time George IV. was in Scotland, but no mention is made of any such function. Lord Panmure's name only appears in those records twice—once, on being presented to His Majesty on August 20th, 1822; and, again, on his presenting the King with a large quantity of whisky for the Royal table. It seems highly probable that, had that nobleman been instrumental in presenting "Dubrach," some mention would have been made of it. Again, had such a function taken place, there would have been little necessity for getting up a petition, as Lord Panmure could have urged the claims of the old veteran verbally. It would rather appear that the petition alone was presented to the King. This document, after informing His Majesty of "Dubrach's" age, etc., and stating that he was perhaps his oldest living enemy, proceeded thus—

"Educated a Roman Catholic, and in all the prejudices of the times, he drew his sword in behalf of another family, and fought with all the energy of a Highlander; but time and experience have corrected his views. Under the mild administration of your royal predecessors, he has seen the nation flourish, and its glory upheld by their wise, able, and vigorous measures. With equal zeal, then, would he draw the sword in defence of that monarch who now fills the throne, and who, he trusts in God, for the good and happiness of his people, will continue to do so for many years to come."

The signatures appended were those of Patrick Grant, the petitioner; Alex. Symers, minister; James Young, elder; Thomas Mollison, elder; James Gordon, elder; and James Speed, elder.

On receipt of the petition, George IV. was graciously pleased to command that a pension of a guinea a week should immediately be bestowed upon "Auld Dubrach" for the remainder of his life, adding that, on account of his great age, "there is no time to lose in the matter." This mark of royal favour did not, however, change in the slightest the political views of the old man, who remained as staunch a Jacobite as ever.

About this time, Lord Panmure had "Dubrach's" portrait painted by Colvin Smith, R.S.A. In order to have this done, he supplied his subject with a suitable dress, and lodged him with Mr John Chalmers, joiner, Airlie Street, Brechin, while giving sittings to the artist in his studio in Pearse Street of that town. The resulting portrait now hangs on the wall of the staircase of Brechin Castle.

"Dubrach's" wife died in 1811, and thereafter he was solely attended to by his daughter

Anne. In about a year after the receipt of his pension, he left Lethnot and returned to his native district. The reason for this change is not quite apparent, especially as his daughter does not appear to have accompanied him. In little more than a year after his return, he ended his life's eventful journey at the great age of 110, and was buried in the cemetery of Braemar. A large flag of granite marks his last resting-place, and Jervise gives the following as the inscription it bears--

"† Erected to the memory of Peter Grant, sometime farmer in Dubrach, who died at Auchindryne, the 11th of February, 1824, aged 110 years. His wife, Mary Cumming, died at Westside, parish of Lethnot, in Forfarshire, on the 4th February, 1811, aged 65 years, and lies interred in the churchyard of Lethnot."

It is not improbable that when "Dubrach" left Lethnot, his son ceased to be tenant of the farm of Westside. At all events, at this time Lord Panmure built a cottage for Anne Grant near the Bridge of Lethnot. Anne was now left in a very destitute condition; in fact, she depended entirely upon the charity of her neighbouring parishioners. She appears to have possessed some rather striking peculiarities, and curious stories are told of her. "Highland pride" was one of her strong characteristics. On her removal to the new cottage this became even more pronounced than before, and she assumed the title of "Lady" Anne. She was also at a loss to find companions suitable to her station. On one occasion, shortly after removing to her new abode, she said--"There's naebody but the minister's folk near me that's worth mindin', an' although it be sair against my will, I doubt I'll hae to mak' them a kind o' cronies."

On "Dubrach's" death, Mrs Symers exerted herself on behalf of Anne, and so successful was she that she managed to get her father's pension continued to the destitute woman, who was then over 60 years of age. This she continued to enjoy for about sixteen years. She died in 1840, and was buried in the churchyard of Lethnot, beside her mother, but their resting-place is unmarked by any stone.

David Grewar, F.S.A. Scot.

[The career, death, and funeral of Grant are thus recorded in the "Aberdeen Journal" of 25th February, 1824—

Died at Auchindryne, in Braemar, on the 11th inst, aged 110 years, Patrick Grant, the Culloden Veteran, better known by the name of "Dubrach," an appellation derived from the farm which he for a considerable period of his life occupied, and the uppermost habitation on the banks of the Dee. He was, about two years ago, brought into public notice, in consequence of His Majesty's royal munificence, in settling on him an annuity of 52 guineas during his life. By the bounty of his Sovereign, thus secured from want, his highest wish was to spend the remainder of his days in the place of his nativity; he accordingly, in the month of May last, removed from Forfarshire to Braemar, accompanied by his son William, who has, during the whole of his father's declining years, attended him with the most tender regard and solicitude. The old man's mental faculties continued unimpaired to the very last; and, possessing as he did, a comparatively good state of health, a retentive memory, a winning and cheerful disposition, a distinct recollection of long past events, many of them nearly a century old, and a certain vivacity and fire peculiar to himself in relating them, it is not surprising that the society of this Highland Patriarch was generally considered very agreeable. As may be supposed, he all his lifetime enjoyed an uncommonly strong constitution, scarcely ever complaining of illness of any description, until within a few hours of his death—even then, he seemed almost exempted from bodily suffering; and, nature completely worn out, he at last expired without the least murmur or struggle. In imitation of the custom of his native country in his younger days, and in compliance with his own particular request, his remains were borne to the churchyard of Braemar, preceded by the slow and plaintive strains of the bagpipes, rendered not the less impressive, from the venerable appearance of the performer, now in his 81st year. The funeral was attended by from two to three hundred Highlanders, all emulous to pay the last mournful tribute of respect for a man, to whose tales of other times they had so often listened with delight, and whose hospitality, in the days of his affluence, many of them had experienced.]

Banff Church Bells.

Sixty years ago a spire was added to the Parish Church of Banff, and detractors of the town could no longer utter a sneer about the burgh and parish having "a kirk without a steeple." There was then placed in the spire a new bell, the gift of Mr James C. Grant Duff of Eden. It was the successor of two bells, the smaller and the older of which bore the following inscription:—

Soli Deo Gratia—Johannes Brigerhuys me f. 1617.

The larger bell had the following round its upper portion:—

Quirin de Vesser me fecit—Roterodami, anno 1718.

It also bore the following, setting forth the names of the parties then in office in the town:—

Robert Stewart, Provost.

James Ogilvie, John Ogilvie, George Stewart — Bailies.

James Lowson, Dean of Guild.

Robert Stewart is supposed to have been the last of a family of that name who held a dis-

tinguished place in the town, frequently filling the highest offices. The family was descended from James Stewart, Earl of Buchan, known in history as "Hearty James," uterine brother to King James the Second, being the second son of Johanna, Queen Dowager, by her second husband, the Black Knight of Lorn. The two Ogilvies are understood to have been father and son, and are believed to have belonged to the Glassaugh family. The "James Lowson," who filled the then important office of Dean of Guild, was a member of a family once possessing considerable property in the town and neighbourhood. They are said to have been brought from Arbroath with the Earl of Airlie, when he had his mansion in what is now the garden at Duff House.

It will be noticed that both bells were made by Dutchmen, Holland being, at the time of their construction, the grand emporium for these and similar articles of manufacture. Though one bell is a century older than the other, both were considerably older than the church from which they were removed. They belonged to the old Chapel of the Virgin in the "Peilheife" of the town, then the Parish Church, and which was used as such up till 1787, when its ruinous condition caused it to be abandoned, the new church—the present Parish Church—being begun in the following year, and finished in 1789. Though belonging to the old church in the Peilheife, they were not attached to it, that building, as the present Parish Church was for long, being "a kirk without a steeple." The bells were placed in a pyramidal erection, some forty feet in height, which was constructed of wood on the top of an old vault, situated on the spot now occupied by a house in Carmelite Street. There they continued to call the people to prayer, and toll mournfully at every funeral, until the year 1802, when, the town selling the ground on which the vaults stood, the bells were transferred to the new church, when they were permanently ejected in July, 1849. Is anyone able to say whether the bells are still in existence?—"Banffshire Journal," April 19.

[The first of the above inscriptions should read—

Soli Deo Gloria—Johannes Burgerhuys Me F. 1617.

The larger bell is of particular interest, being the only one we know of bearing the name of Quirin de Vesser. This founder probably succeeded Peter Ostens, whose bells are at Banchory-Ternan and Kinneff.—Ed.]

Rare Scotch Words.

[Most of the words in the following list have been sent to the Scottish Dialect Committee by their correspondents, or gathered by members from recently-published local dialect literature. A few of the words have been incorporated in the Addenda to the Supplement of Jamieson's "Scottish Dictionary," published this year, but the greater number have not hitherto appeared in any dictionary in the form and with the meaning, here given. Considering the importance of the matter, readers familiar with any of these words are invited to communicate to Mr William Grant, Ashfield, Cults, Aberdeen, the name of the parish, town, or county in which they have heard the words used, adding, if possible, an illustrative sentence.—Ed.]

In explanation of the subject Mr Grant writes:—

I may use this occasion to remind readers that one of the objects of the Scottish Dialect Committee is to gather in words and meanings which have hitherto escaped the dictionaries. Jamieson's Dictionary, published in 1809, was admittedly weak in local dialect, and represented best Central Scoten—perhaps the most direct descendant of the old Court and literary language of the country. Frequent editions have tried to make up for this deficiency, and the labours of Wright and Colville have added considerably to our knowledge of local forms. Dr Colville found in the dialect of his native parish in Fife a surprising number of unregistered words, and there is every probability that the same is true of other districts. School Board English and modern means of communication have played sad havoc with our local dialects, but, whether the relics be great or small, the committee consider it a patriotic task to gather them up so that when the record of our language is closed it may be as complete as possible. The committee, therefore, will be pleased to receive lists of dialect words used in particular districts, or in particular trades and industries, or even single words which are considered peculiar in meaning or form by the collectors. The returns will be carefully compared with the dictionaries, and what is new will be permanently registered.

The committee have a large number of correspondents in different parts of the country, but every district is not yet represented, and they would welcome the co-operation of all interested in our ancient Scottish tongue. I shall be very pleased to furnish such people with further information about our aims and methods of work, if they will communicate with me.

William Grant,

Convener of Scottish Dialect Committee,
Ashfield, Cults, Aberdeen.

Aivis.—An unprofitable job—"Ye're aye at some aivis or anidder"—New Deer. Wright gives "awvish" as "silly or dull" in the Midlands of England. "Ayvish" in Wiltshire means half-witted.

Beaster.—A challenge to a feat of daring—Dundee. In the north we call it a "blaiker." Wright gives beast or best, to excel; also a puzzle, a capper.

Browls.—Dry pieces of wood gathered for burning—Stirling and West Aberdeen(?) In Lincoln "brawls" means small twigs among firewood, and in Dorset and Somerset "brawler" means a bundle of reeds or brushwood.

Baivis.—A large or heaped-up fire—Stirling. Jamieson gives "bevie." Both words are probably connected with the literary and dialectal English "bavin," brushwood for fuel or fencing.

Beychel.—A diminutive person (associated with the idea of quick movement). "He ran like a beychel," said of a child. "The beychel" is a nickname applied to a carter of small size, but not deformed—Stirling. Jamieson gives "baichie," a contemptuous term for a child once in use in Perth and Clydesdale; and "to baigle," meaning to run or walk with short steps as a child.

Bagglers.—The fry of trout—Central Perth. Jamieson gives "bagrel," a minnow—also a short, stout person; and "baggie" and "bagmennon," the large minnow.

Broch.—An apron—Carnoustie, Forfar.

Bluifs.—Clumsy shoes or slippers (especially made of rimes)—Kirkcudbright.

Braxies.—Marbles with brown spots—Moray.

Brent.—To lean—Bellie, Moray. Wright gives for Banff to spring suddenly.

Bourt.—A hank or skein—Bellie, Moray. Cf. "bort"—Derby—a thick cord with which to tie up hay.

Beezim-ticht.—Clean swept; "Gin yer hoose be beezim-ticht, it'll dee—New Deer.

Capper.—A late riser; one who claws the porridge caup in the morning—New Deer.

Coosie.—A challenge to a feat of dexterity—Arbroath.

Clean-dakeith for.—Too clever for—Selkirk.

Cheekyside.—Aslant, an agricultural term—Berwick. Wright gives "cheekaside" in the same sense for Perth.

Catterthraw.—A fit of rebellious ill-temper—Central Perth.

Cweef.—A trick, a catch—Moray.

Cawk.—To make one pay dear for: "He'll cawk ye for that."—New Deer.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1850.

3rd January. At Ardler, Mr John Chisholm, aged 51, for thirty-one years Schoolmaster there.

26th January. At his house, Union Terrace, Mr Peter Gill, Watchmaker, in his 93rd year.

1st February. At her house in Golden Square, Mrs Anne Gordon, widow of Rev. George Brown, of Glenmuick.

25th January. At Liverpool, Agnes Dingwall, relict of George Thomson, Esq. of Fairley.

30th January. At Harlaw, Rev. Henry Simson, Minister of the Free Church, Chapel of Garioch, in his 61st year.

24th January. At the Manse, Arbuthnott, Rev. James Milne, in his 81st year.

21st February. At the Manse, Turriff, Rev. William Leslie, in his 42st year.

2nd March. At London, James Dingwall Fordyce, Esq., aged 71, second son of the late Arthur Dingwall Fordyce of Culsh.

9th March. At Crown Terrace, James Hadden, Esq., aged 58.

9th March. At Fawsyde, Dr William Young of Fawsyde, in his 75th year.

26th March. At Peterhead, of fever, Andrew Robb, Esq., Surgeon, in his 36th year.

1st April. At Paris, John Mair Gerard, Esq. of Midstrath.

6th April. At the Manse, Coull, Rev. William Campbell, in his 53rd year.

16th April. At Leamington, in his 81st year, Alexander Seton, of Mounie, Esq., J.P. and D.L. of Aberdeenshire.

21st April. At 50 Dee Street, Miss Marjory Stuart, eldest daughter of the late John Stuart, Esq. of Inchbreck, Professor of Greek in Marischal College.

20th April. Here, Alexander Watt, Esq., Land Surveyor, aged 78.

26th April. At 124 Union Street, Mary Grant, wife of John Christie, M.D.

25th April. At Lochhead, by Elmhill, Isobel Yeats, aged 63.

30th April. At Keith, Rev. John Murdoch, A.M., aged 82, incumbent of Trinity (Episcopal) Church.

27th April. At King's College, Mrs Jack, wife of Rev. Principal Jack.

22nd May. At Edinburgh, Lady Jane Tayler, wife of Major Tayler, Rothiemay House, and sister of the Earl of Fife.

21st May. At the Manse, Cluny, Rev. John Fraser.

24th May. At Ferryport-on-Craig, May Nicol, aged 25. She was of the extraordinary height of 6 feet 6 inches, and was supposed to be the tallest woman in Fifeshire.

24th May. At Oldmeldrum, George Minty, an exemplary Elder in the Free Church, aged 81 years, sixty of which were spent in the society of his wife, who is left behind.

11th June. At 153 King Street, in her 80th year, Mrs [Catherine Chalmers] Brown, relict of Provost Alexander Brown.

? At 35 Victoria Place, Aberdeen, Rev. Walter Carrick, A.M., Minister of St Clement's Parish, Aberdeen, aged 25.

11th June. At Springbank Terrace, William Knight, second son of the late Dr Knight of Marischal College, in his 22nd year.

31st May. At the Manse, Fintray, Rev. John Leslie, in his 88th year [for fifty-seven years Minister of that parish].

16th June. At 23 Bon-Accord Terrace, Miss Johanna Forbes, fourth daughter of the late William Forbes, Esq. of Echt.

18th June. At Belhelvie, Helen, daughter of the late Rev. James Douglas, Minister of Premnay, in her 65th year.

18th June. At Bath Lodge, Stonehaven, Janet, eldest daughter of the late Rev. Alexander Leslie, Minister of Fordoun, in her 81st year.

21st June. At Bexhill Cottage, Alexander Elmslie of Camphill, aged 40.

6th July. At his father's house, in Park Place, Dundee, Rev. George Ogilvie, B.D., Minister of the Free Church, Maryculter, in his 32nd year.

5th July. At Willow Cottage, Ellon, Alexander Garden of Millfield, aged 67.

4th July. At Holm Cottage, Inverury, Christian Lessel, wife of John Leslie, Surgeon.

2nd July. At Schoolhouse, Rhynie, Mrs Mary Ingram, wife of Rev. George Stuart, aged 20.

31st July. At Aberdeen, James Forbes, Esq., late of Echt.

14th August. At Castlehill, Aberdeen, Janet Simpson, wife of Rev. Alexander Spence, Minister of Free St Clement's there.

18th August. At Deemount, Mr John Lumsden, Merchant, aged 74.

23rd August. At 239 Union Street West, Benjamin Williamson, M.D., aged 61.

6th September. At Deebank, Banchory, Lieut.-Colonel George Thomas Gordon, late of the Bombay Cavalry.

2nd September. At Hastings, Harry Lumsden, Esq., younger of Auchindoir, aged 35.

17th September. At Mackie Place Cottage, Miss Elizabeth Ogilvie, daughter of the late Rev. John Ogilvie, D.D., Midmar.

11th September. At the Manse, Logie-Buchan, Rev. George Cruden, Minister of that parish, in his 77th year.

26th September. At Woodside, Dr John C. Stewart, aged 75.

29th September. At Fraserburgh, Lewis Chalmers, Esq., aged 69.

30th September. At Wellhouse, Rev. James Duncan, Schoolmaster of the parish of Rayne.

4th October. At Peterhead, Adam Arbuthnot, Esq., aged 77.

14th October. At Hastings, Anne, widow of Harry Lumsden younger, of Auchindoir.

15th October. At Knockleith, in her father's house, Margaret Helen, wife of Rev. George Brown, of the Free Church of Cruden in her 27th year.

8th October. At Stonehaven, Mrs Dr Donaldson.

3rd November. At Willowbank, John Gibb, C.E., aged 74.

11th November. At 185 King Street, Margaret Diana, wife of Mr George Elmslie, Merchant, and daughter of the late Alexander Manson, Esq. of Oakhill.

27th November. At Edinburgh, Sarah W. Leslie, youngest daughter of H. G. Leslie, Esq. of Dunlugas.

2nd December. At Ballindalloch Castle, Sir John Macpherson Grant, Bart., aged 47.

10th December. At Old Aberdeen, aged 90, Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Forbes, youngest son of the late Sir Arthur Forbes, Bart. of Craigievar.

13th December. At Aberdeen, Mrs Lucken Crawford, relict of Lieutenant-General John Gordon Cuming Skene of Pitlurg and Dyce.

15th December. At the Parsonage, New Pitsligo, Catherine, wife of Rev. William Webster, in her 41st year.

17th December. At Rosemount Place, Aberdeen, Catherine Glennie, wife of Rev. Samuel Macmillan.

28th December. At Aberdeen, Simpson Duguid of Cammachmore, aged 47.

Queries.

478. James Strachan, Advocate.—Of which of the many Strachan families was Mr James Strachan, advocate, Aberdeen, a scion? He was alive till after 1788.

McG. G.

479. Family of Crichton of Cluny.—What particulars are recorded of the genealogy of this family? The names of the authorities bearing on the subject would also oblige.

A. B.

480. Spone.—Has any reader come across the word "Spone" in old records, or in modern use? If so, particulars would oblige. It is quite different from the word "spoon."

C.

481. Naltery, or Nalteray.—I should be grateful to learn in what parish Naltery, or Nalteray, is situated. The name was in use about 1770.

McG. G.

Answers.

456. Francis Shaw, Antiquarian. — Mr Shaw was named to me, in 1878—not as an antiquary—but as a professional Searcher of Records.

Nemo.

459. Scottish Proverbs.—Among works referring to Scottish proverbs may be included "Proverbs and Sayings Maistly Scotch," selected and arranged by the "People's Journal" Competition Editor. (Dundee: John Leng and Co., 1889. Price 3d).

A.

A good collection, made by Allan Ramsay, is reprinted in several works, such as Dr M'Kay's "Dictionary of Lowland Scotch."

Quiznuncle.

471. A Rhyming Epitaph.—The epitaph quoted by Mr Lawranco appears to have been composed by the humorous Rev. Henry Ogilvy, minister of Lunan, and inscribed upon a tombstone in the graveyard of that parish. Mr Jervise quotes it (Epitaphs II., p. 391), and explains that the tombstone was afterwards removed from Lunan, and inserted into the gable of a house in Upper Hall Street, Montrose.

R.

No. 110.—May 25, 1910.

The Parish Church in the Medieval Period.

The "Scottish Historical Review" for April has an article on "The Parish Church and Its Privileges During the Medieval Period, by the late Bishop Dowden, Edinburgh, from which we extract the following—

We may now turn to consider one of the most cherished privileges of the parish church, namely, the temporary protection which it was allowed to afford to those who fled to it from the pursuit of persons who were smarting under some real or supposed wrong. They might be criminals or they might be wrongly suspected of crime; but all were alike given a temporary defence against the passion of revenge. Every baptismal church and every church possessing the right of sepulture (this would include most monastic churches) enjoyed this privilege.

Apparently in all cases protection was to be secured to the fugitive until the bishop or his official gave formal sentence that the offence alleged belonged to a class which was exempted from protection. It is thus, as I understand it, that the following statute is to be interpreted—"Of the immunity of churches: We ordain that those who flee for protection to the church shall be defended by the same unless they be pillagers of fields by night ('nocturni depopulatores agrorum') or public and notorious highway-robbers ('predones viarum publicarum') or manifest violators of churches or church-breakers, or those who have been excommunicated 'a canone vel ab homine.' In which cases they are still to be defended until the Diocesan or his Official shall have formally ('sentencialiter') pronounced that they should not be defended." . . .

I do not recollect having met in our Scottish records any notice of the length of time during which the fugitive in Scotland was entitled to protection from the parish church. In England it was forty days; and before the expiry of the forty days a fugitive guilty of felony might, while under the protection of the church, take an oath "to abjure the realm," i.e., to quit the country, and not return without the king's licence. But, though the length of the period during which protection was afforded in parish churches is not specified, it is plain from certain Scottish statutes that protection was extended for some considerable time, for we find a statute of the diocese of Aberdeen (thirteenth century) forbidding the removal of provisions intended for the sustenance of such fugitives, or besieging them by surrounding the walls.

In another statute, assigned also with probability to the thirteenth century, we find it ordained that "in every baptismal church (i.e., every parish church), and in every church where there is sepulture, there shall be secure asylum ('refugium') for every one to whom it is conceded of right in the cemetery for thirty paces round." The Aberdeen statute, referred to above, may be illustrated from certain "Gravamina" set forth by the English bishops about the year 1257, among which we have the complaint that when a fugitive had sought the protection of a church, the burial-ground or the steps of the church were surrounded by persons on guard, so that it was scarcely possible to supply the fugitive with the food necessary to support life. . . .

THE RIGHTS OF "SANCTUARY."

Passing from the privileges of the baptismal church, and the church possessing the rights of sepulture, something remains to be said of the special privileges of those places possessing what was known as the rights of "sanctuary." In Scotland, as in England, the privilege of sanctuary seems to have been based in each case on a special grant from the Crown, or at least on the recognition by the Crown of an ancient and well-established custom. The king, to do honour to some favoured church, or to show his devotion to some particular patron saint, would confer the privilege of sanctuary.

Lands around a church enjoying the special privilege of sanctuary, as distinguished from the ordinary privilege of every parish church, were often of very considerable extent. They were known as the "girth" or "grith"; and its limits were commonly indicated by the erection of stone crosses, or of stones marked with a cross. David I. in 1143 granted to the monks of Kelso the ancient church of Lesmahago, in Clydesdale. Lesmahago, which appears to have been an early foundation of Celtic Christianity, had long enjoyed the right of sanctuary, and its girth was marked by four crosses. In his charter to Kelso, the King says—"Whosoever, to escape peril of life or limb, shall flee to the same cell, or within the four crosses which mark the bounds, to them I grant my firm peace, out of the reverence I bear to God and St Machut."

At Tain, the venerated shrine of St Duthac, there was also a girth, marked by four crosses. It is not very long ago since the crosses that marked the girth of Dull, in Atholl were removed. And one or more of the stones bearing the cross of St John still remain, it is said, to mark the ancient extent—a mile in every direction—of the girth of the Preceptory of the Knights of St John of Jerusalem at Torphichen, in Linlithgowshire. Similarly, a mile on all sides was the extent of the girth of the English sanctuaries of Hexham, Beverley, Ripon, and St Edmundsbury. At Applecross, in Ross-shire, like Lesmahago, a sanctuary of the Celtic period, renowned as possessing the remains of St Maelrubha, a martyr, who suffered at the hands of the Danes, the girth extended to six miles round the church. . . .

There was a famous sanctuary at Wedale (St Mary's Church at Stow, near Galashiels), a place rendered peculiarly sacred on account of its possessing what was supposed to be a figure

of the Virgin brought from the East by King Arthur. And, according to Dr Stuart, "there existed a well-known road to the sanctuary of Stow, across the hills, called the Girthgate." Sanctuary was also the privilege of the church of St Baldred at Tyninghame, in East Lothian. . . .

There were several sanctuaries of lesser note. Fordun mentions four such in his chapter on the Islands of Scotland (lib. ii., cap. 10). Sanctuary existed, according to this writer, at Hy Columbkille, at Helant Macarmyk, at Aweryne, and at Helant Leneow. Mr W. F. Skene proposes as identifications for the last three places named, Eilean-more, Sanday, and Eilean-na-naomh. On this matter Fordun may be trusted. But one hesitates to accept all the claims for the possession of the privilege that have been put forward on behalf of various other places in the Western Highlands and Islands. In some cases certainly there seems to be no evidence beyond local tradition; and nothing would be easier than to confuse the common rights of every parish church with the special privileges of sanctuary. [Footnote.—The following places are alleged to have been sanctuaries—Kilmonivaig (near the modern Fort Augustus); Kingarth, in Rothesay; Lismore, the cathedral of Argyll; Kilcomkill, on the Sound of Mull; Kilmoluag, in the island of Raasay; Kilmuir, in the island of North Uist. And other names could be added.]

On the other hand, it must be admitted that in the wild days of Celtic Christianity there would be a more frequently pressing need for protection being afforded to fugitives. The famous "Cross Macduff" in Fife, near Newburgh, about one-third of a mile from the boundary of Perthshire, seems to have been an ancient tribal sanctuary; and a very peculiar survival of the ancient and recognised custom of affording protection to those who could claim kin to Macduff lingered long The subject has been dealt with by Dr John Stuart, with his usual fulness and accuracy, in the Preface to the second volume of his "Sculptured Stones."

The "Battle of Corrichie" Ballad.

Referring to the note on this subject, in No. 102 (March 30), the writer, "Alba," while pointing out the errors which others have fallen into when writing about the ballad, has made the "confusion worse confounded" by his own misstatements.

The ballad was first printed in Ruddiman's "Weekly Magazine," July 30th, 1772, under the following note:—"We have been favoured with the following copy of an Old Scots Ballad, by a gentleman of taste and literature, which we do not remember ever to have seen in print; and therefore have given it a place for the sake of preservation. It is said to have been wrote by one Forbes, Schoolmaster at Mary-Culter on Dee-side."

On reprinting from the original this ballad for M'Connochie's "Deeside," 3rd edition, p. 66, I added a brief note anent its subsequent appearances, and probable authorship.

It is no doubt a "pseudo-antique"; and, so far, "Alba" is right. When, however, he gives as a reason for rejecting Maidment's ascription of the authorship to Robert Forbes—that it "was published some 45 years before his time"—what are we to think? Robert Forbes was printing his "Ajax" (2nd edition) at Aberdeen in 1742, the ballad being printed in 1772!

"Alba" proceeds to name John Forbes, Minister of Old Deer, as the author; but on what grounds? He admits that John Forbes never was a schoolmaster "on Dee-side." Has he never heard of "William Forbes," author of the famous chap-book "The Dominie Depos'd," who was schoolmaster at Peterculter 1723-35, when he was deposed for matters recorded in the Kirk Session Records against him? (see Jervise's "Epitaphs," I., 19). All the best authorities now believe that he is the likeliest "Forbes a Schoolmaster" to have furbished up such a ballad.

W.

[For interesting references see Walker's "Bards of Bon-Accord," 213-16.—Ed.]

Rare Scotch Words.

(Continued.)

Cawker.—"He'll put on the cawker"; i.e., the price—New Deer. "Cawk" in English dialect means to flog. "Calk" or "Calker, meaning the iron point on a horseshoe to prevent slipping, is in use both in England and Scotland.

Crulgin.—Not well set up—New Deer—e.g., a "crulgin crater." Wright gives "crulzie," to crouch.

Crowlin.—Cowering (?) — New Deer. Cf. Eng. crawl. "Fat are ye crowlin' at?"

Chilp; or Chilpie.—Cold—New Deer.

Camaled.—Turned in the edge (of a scythe). —Moray. Cf. "cammel" in Roxburgh, a crooked piece of wood, used as a hook to hang anything on. "Cam" in Eng. dialect means crooked.

Choup.—"Tak' choup for a cheenge"; i.e., a dish of want—New Deer. Perhaps a play on "choop," the fruit of the wild rose, and "chop," or "chap," to bargain, exchange.

Chawler-Chafted.—Lantern-jawed — Bellie, Moray. "Chowl" in Scotch means to distort or to whine.

Chye.—A chaffinch—Bellie, Moray.

Cweelie Off.—Wheedle out of—Moray. Cf. Shetland, "kjollie," to coax, and "cully," to cheat, said to be obsolete by Wright.

Dirry.—A dottle—Durris, Deeside.

Doolies.—Marbles—Moray.

DABRICH.—Used by the Duchess of Gordon, the famous Jean Maxwell, in her description of the Cabrach—"I've a parish ca'ed the Cabrach, the fowk's dabrich, the water's Rooster, the corn trushter, the minister's Twaddle, and the wife's Strang."

DENTED.—Tainted with damp—Moray.

EYN.—An oven—Peebles.

FUGLE.—A cunning cheat—Central Perth.

FUGLE.—To manipulate a thing so as to deceive—Stirling. Wright gives the verb as found in W. York.

FIDGIE OR FITCHIE.—A mealie-pudding—Moray. Wright gives "fadge" as Scottish and English, meaning a thick cake. In Dorset, "fadge" means the manyplies. Cf. "fodgy," stuffy.

FEIG.—To be fastidious over trifles—Berwick. Wright says that in Dumfries the word means "to potter."

FEEACHY.—Faded in colour: spoiled in the makin.—Moray.

GEY-GEDDERT.—"A gey-geddert (?) auld carle"—West Aberdeenshire.

GOOGLE. — To deceive — Stirling. Cf. "googlie," the deceptive ball at cricket.

GULLY.—Human excrement—Stirling.

GAIVIN.—Awkward and reckless—Berwick. Cf. "goave," to stare.

GUTTAM of ink (?)—Easter Ross.

GRANNIEDEY.—An old man: a grandfather—Moray.

GLOAN.—Feverish excitement; "She wiz in a gloan to wun awa'"—West Aberdeen.

GYNE.—Weird—Bellie, Moray. "Ging" in Devon means "to bewitch."

HAROOSH.—A noisy clamour—Stirling.

HELM.—A crowd, or a noisy crowd—Stirling. Wright gives "hemmel."

HORK.—To grub like a pig; "What are ye horkin in the dirt for?" to a grubby child—Kirkcudbright. In Northumberland "hurk" means to take out the entrails of a hare or rabbit.

HABIESHAW.—To throw sweets in the air for children to pick up—Central Perth.

HUGGERMAGRILLIAN.—A coarse, unkempt, tattered female—Central Perth.

HURKLES.—"Sit doon on yer hurkles"—New Deer. The verb "hurkle" is given by Wright.

HUT.—A heap—Berwick. Cf. "huit" and "huist."

HERTSEAD.—Heartburn—Bellie, Moray.

JEER.—The seat of the trousers—Aberdeen.

JOUTER.—To saunter—Berwick. Cf. Northern "jotter," to employ one's self in light work.

JAUPIT.—Empty-looking, thin—Ellon, Aberdeen. Wright gives "jaup," to weary, as a Banffshire word.

JEHOYT.—To give up, cease from doing a thing; "Ye'd better jehoyt"—Aberdeen.

JECK.—To go right; "It didna jeck wi' ma"—New Deer.

JAMMIE.—A hovel—Avoch, Black Isle. In West York the word means a wall loosely built without mortar. In Aberdeen and Banff we speak of "A muckle jam(b) o' a hoos."

JEWKIE.—A child's nightdress—Bellie, Moray.

KWEEGER.—An untidy mixture: "Sic a kweeger ye're makin'"—New Deer.

KNAIS(H)T.—A piece or lump—Moray.

KWEETIN.—A bedcover—Moray.

KNAP GIRSE.—Knot grass—Bellie, Moray. Wright gives "knap," a hump.

LOORACH.—Rags—Moray.

LYAWGIN.—Gossiping—Aberdeen.

LUIFFIE.—Morning roll—Arbroath.

LYBBICH.—Reading or reciting—New Deer.

MUCHTY.—Close, stale—New Deer. The ordinary Scotch for this is "Mochy."

MINEERUM.—"He mith a gotten inta a gey mineerum"—West Aberdeen. In Galloway "minyar" means a misfortune.

MATHY.—Warm and misty—Berwick. Cf. "muith" and "meef."

MOUDEN.—To melt or clarify—Bellie, Moray.

[Readers familiar with any of these words are earnestly solicited to communicate to Mr William Grant, Ashfield, Cults, Aberdeen, convener of the Scottish Dialect Committee, the name of the parish, town, or county in which they have heard the words used, adding, if possible, an illustrative sentence.—Ed.]

Bibliography of William Thom.

To the interesting list of references, quoted by Mr Thomson in No. 102 (March 30), there may be added the following:—

1. Dix's Lions Living and Dead—2nd edition, 1856 p 146—a good sketch on Thom.

2. Buchanan's Olden Days in Aberdeen—two articles on Thom.

3. The Knockespock pamphlet, issued in 1841, when funds were being collected to emancipate the "Serf"—headed:—

How many a gem of purest ray serene.
The dark unfaTHOMed caves of ocean bear.

W. W.

Bees in a Graveyard.

A correspondent communicated to the "Aberdeen Journal" of 5th July, 1855, the following facts:—

In the south-east corner of the churchyard of the parish of Oldmeldrum (sic) there is a handsome stone tablet erected to the memory of the late Mr James Garden. It is placed against

the high stone wall of the churchyard, and there is no doubt a well-enclosed cavity between the tablet and the wall, and at one corner of the tablet there is a small chink or opening. A fine strong swarm of bees has taken possession of this lonely tenement, and have broken the silence of this place of sepulture by their reeling dance and busy hum, in violent contrast to the genus of the place. Samson's quaint riddle is not more strange than this reality of the churchyard yielding sweetness. In England, where the incumbent claims the churchyard as his freehold, with all fees and emoluments arising therefrom, the claims to the property of the bees in question would be easily settled: they would assuredly belong to the incumbent: but in Scotland it might be a knotty question for the gentlemen of the long robe to settle who had the rightful claim to any honey that might be gathered from the tombs.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1851.

7th January. At 7 Union Terrace, Aberdeen, in her 80th year, Mrs Dalgarno, relict of Alexander Dalgarno, Esq., Merchant in Aberdeen, and youngest and last surviving daughter of the late Right Rev. John Skinner, Senior Bishop and Primus of the Scotch Episcopal Church.

9th January. At Aberdeen, James Lamond, Esq. of Stranduff.

12th January. At Denmore, George Charles Moir, Esq. of Denmore.

13th January. At Cotton, Hannah Hargreave, wife of Rev. J. B. Laing, aged 26.

17th January. At Netherdale House, Mrs Elizabeth Mary Rose Innes of Netherdale.

27th January. At 101 Crown Street, James Keith, Esq., of the Hudson's Bay Company, aged 68.

22nd January. At Schoolhouse, Methlic, George Pirie, Schoolmaster, aged 76.

31st January. At 36 Schoolhill, Crombie More, daughter of the late Mr George More of Raeden.

15th February. At the Manse, Pitsligo, in her 44th year, Marion Keddie, wife of Rev. E. Hume.

19th February. At Aberdeen, aged 80, Mrs Helen Farquhar, widow of James Farquhar of Doctors' Commons, London, and of Johnston, Kincardineshire.

17th February. At Southsea, aged 80, Charles Gordon, Esq. of Fyvie Castle, eldest son of the late Hon. Alexander Gordon (Lord Rockville).

12th February. At Petscaff, Foveran, Andrew Ligertwood of Waterideemuir, Surgeon, sometime of the 65th Foot.

22nd February. At 1 Crown Place East, James Keith, Esq., Surgeon, R.N., aged 76.

6th March. At Shannaburn, Robert Gerard, aged 81.

11th March. At the Manse, Knockando, Rev. John Wink, Minister of that parish, aged 54.

26th March. At Craig Castle, Ann Elizabeth, daughter of the late John Johnstone of Alva [Stirlingshire], and spouse of James Gordon of Craig.

21st March. At the Manse, Alford, Miss Margaret Allan, aged 82.

25th March. Here, Rev. Ferdinand Ellis, Minister of Culsalmond, in his 80th year.

4th April. At Newton House, Sarah Forbes, wife of Alexander Gordon, Esq. of Newton.

4th April. At London, Mrs Smith, widow of Mr Lewis Smith, formerly Paper Manufacturer at Peterculter.

13th April. At Aberdeen, Miss Charlotte Farquharson, last surviving sister of the late William Farquharson, Esq. of Monaltrie.

4th May. At King's College, John Tulloch, LL.D., for many years Professor of Mathematics in that University.

3rd May. At Dudwick, Mr George Mair, Farmer, late Shipowner, Aberdeen, aged 89.

8th May. At Schoolhouse, Methlic, Rev. John Pirie, in his 35th year.

31st May. At Aberdeen, while bathing in the sea, James M'Combie, aged 19, Student of Divinity, and eldest son of Rev. Robert M'Combie, Minister of the Free Church of Leslie and Premnay.

27th May. At Camphill House, Mrs Jean Leslie, relict of Joseph Emslie, Esq. of Camphill.

18th June. At London, Sir Charles Bannerman, Bart.

13th June. At Cruden, John M'Kenzie, Schoolmaster, aged 93.

21st June. At the Manse, Keith, Isabella, eldest daughter of Rev. James Thomson, Minister of Keith, in her 25th year.

28th June. At Springhill, James Duguid, Esq. of Springhill.

1st July. At the Manse, Cluny, Jane Ramage, relict of Walter Inglis, Shipowner, Aberdeen.

10th July. At Victoria Street, Mr Andrew Oldman, late Merchant, aged 78.

18th July. At Banff, Miss Jane Shand, sister of the late William Shand, Esq. of Craigelly, aged 77.

26th July. At Bilbopark, near Ellon, aged 82, Margaret Auldjo, last surviving daughter of John Auldjo, Esq. of Portlethen.

27th July. At Bridgellis, Kintore, Baillie Fraser, aged 65.

19th July. At Burnside, Strathspey, Miss Grant of Burnside, aged 86, the last resident member of the old and ancient family of Burnside. . .

11th August. At 33 Crown Street, George Barron, W.S., aged 50 [1851, and son of John Barron, Watchmaker, Aberdeen.]

19th August. At Drumduan, Mrs Thomson, sen. of Banchory.

16th August. At 21 Sloane Street, Chelsea, Lieutenant-General Nathaniel Forbes, H.E.I.C.S., Colonel of the 24th M.N.I., eldest son of Charles Forbes of Auchernach, by his wife, Janet, daughter of Francis Fraser, Esq., Findrack, who was born at Corgarff Castle 2nd February, 1766.

13th September. At 66 Dee Street, Miss Hester Smith, daughter of the late Richard Smith, Paper Mills of Culter.

12th September. At St Bridget, near Tomintoul, aged 62, Charles Gordon, Esq., the last representative of the Gordons of Glenbucket.

2nd October. Here, Mr Robert Mathew, formerly Manager Aberdeen Steam Navigation Company, aged 47.

23rd September. At Old Aberdeen, Margaret Gordon, spouse of Francis Irvine, M.D.

4th October. At Badenscoth, Jonathan Leslie, Esq., in his 78th year.

18th October. At York, Mary Anne [daughter of Sir Archibald Grant, Bart. of Monymusk], wife of John Farquharson, Esq. of Haughton, aged 62 [? 64].

30th September. Here, David, youngest son of the late Professor Paul, of King's College, aged 37.

19th October. At Granton Lodge, aged 71, Helen Carnegie, relict of John Ross, Esq. of Granton Lodge, and of Clark's Court, Grenada.

13th October. Here, William Ligertwood of Logierieve, aged 51.

28th October. At 1 Bon-Accord Square, Alexander Forbes, Esq. of Blackford, aged 65.

31st October. At the Manse, Towie, Rev. Robert Lindsay, LL.D., Minister of Towie.

31st October. At 24 Belmont Street, Elizabeth Clark, relict of William Gibson, Merchant, Aberdeen.

23th October. At Mill of Ardlethen, Mrs Garden, aged 64, widow of Alexander Garden, Esq. of Millfield.

10th November. At his house 103 Gallowgate, Mr Alexander Moir, late Hosier, in his 84th year.

15th November. At London, the Right Hon. Marjory, Dowager Lady Saltoun, aged 92.

15th November. At 77 Chapel Street, Helen [only daughter of George Leslie of Folla], relict of Rev. James Innes, Meiklefolla.

7th December. At Fasque House, Fettercairn, Sir John Gladstone, Bart.

1st December. At Derby, Robert Hunter Young, Esq., W.S. [fourth] son of David Young, Esq. of Cornhill, Aberdeenshire [aged 31].

14th December. At Stuartfield, Rev. Neil M'Kechnie, for many years Minister of the Congregational Church there.

14th December. At Allargue, in her 91st year, Miss Farquharson.

15th December. Rev. William Scott Hay, Minister of the Free Church, Bankhead, Midmar [formerly of Bridge of Weir], in his 53rd year.

Queries.

482. The Dukes of Gordon.—When did the Dukes of Gordon cease to belong to the Roman Catholic religion and adopt Protestantism?

J. W.

483. Helen Strachan.—Of what family was Dame Helen Strachan who, before March, 1713, was relict of Sir James Kennedy, Conservator of the Scots Privileges at Camphier (Campvere)? In 1698 Sir Andrew Kennedy of Clowburn (sic), Conservator of the same, was made a burgess of Aberdeen.

M. R. R. M'G. G.

484. Thomas Leslie.—In a sequestered nook in Battle Churchyard, seven miles from Hastings, I found, overshadowed by a large tree, the headstone to an Aberdeenshire man, inscribed:—

"To the memory of Thomas Leslie, of Berryden, in the county of Aberdeen, who died at Battle on the 8th of September, 1833, aged 61. Erected by his niece, Jane Hindman."

Is there anything known of this gentleman? There used to be a Berryden near Aberdeen. Was he the laird?

[Battle was the actual place of conflict between the Saxons and the Norman invaders in 1066, and Battle Abbey was erected in fulfilment of a vow made by William the Conqueror; a rude pillar in the grounds of the Abbey marks the spot where Harold was slain. The village grew up around the sacred edifice, and two of its streets, named Upper and Lower Sanglac (lake of blood), still grimly memorise the famous fight.]

Alba.

485. William Farquharson.—William Farquharson, sometime in Milnhead, or Hillhead, of Melgum, married Margaret Stewart, who, after Farquharson's death, was married a second time. Who was the second husband?

G.

486. Sir Charles Alexander Gordon, K.C.B., M.D.—Sir Charles Alexander Gordon, Surgeon-General, Indian Army, author of "Recollections of Thirty-Nine Years in the Army," and other works, died in 1899. From what branch of the Gordons did he descend? Perhaps Mr Bulloch would oblige.

M. H. M.

Answers.

443. Surname of Shearer.—The surname Shearer is of Teutonic origin, and was originally applied to those skilled as shearers of sheep.

G.

450. George Davidson.—Through the kind assistance of Mr Alexander Milne, Dean of Guild Murray, and Mr G. M. Fraser, librarian, I am enabled to state authoritatively that George Davidson died at Loirsbank (wrongly printed Lorisbank, in several notices), Cults, on 10th May, 1872. Mr Fraser explains that the 1889 edition of "St Swithin" gives the date of Davidson's death correctly, but his age as 61 instead of 66.

H.

466. The Pawnbroker's Three Brass Balls.—This sign was taken from that of the Italian bankers, generally called Lombards, who were the first to open loan-shops in England for the relief of temporary distress. The greatest of the Lombards were the celebrated and eventually princely house of the Medici of Florence. They bore pills on their shield (and those pills, as usual then, were gilded), in allusion to the professional origin from whence they had derived the name of Medici; whence their agents in England and other countries placed their armorial bearings over their doors, have assumed three balls as their sign.

L. F.

The famous family of the Medici, so celebrated in Florence and throughout all Italy, got their name from being great physicians, and they consequently took as their coat-of-arms three drops (of blood). They afterwards became great bankers and money-lenders, and so it is that pawnbrokers all over the country have assumed three balls as their sign.

N.

No. 111.—June 1, 1910.

Hon. John Smith, LL.D., C.M.G.

John Smith, one of the pioneers of University education in Australia, died at Sydney, 12th October, 1885, aged 63. He was born at Peterculter about 1822, as I presume, and was educated at Marischal College, Aberdeen, where he graduated M.A., with honourable distinction, in 1843, and M.D. in 1844. The degree of LL.D. was granted by the University of Aberdeen in 1876. During the recurring illness from 1839 to 1843 of Thomas Clark, Professor of Chemistry at Marischal College, Smith officiated in his stead, and he was Substitute Lecturer on Agriculture there in 1848.

When Sydney University was endowed in 1850, the services of Dr Smith were secured as Professor of Experimental Physics and Chemistry, and he arrived in New South Wales in 1851, in time to take part in the inauguration proceedings. He was an earnest teacher and indefatigable worker. Independently of his ordinary avocation, he was President of the Board of Education, a director of the Mutual Provident Society, and lecturer on economic themes to the working classes, doing a vast amount of excellent work gratuitously. His health broke down at last, and he travelled in Egypt, Syria, and Palestine, writing to the Sydney press graphic accounts of what he saw and experienced, which were afterwards published in book form. He was made a member of the Legislative Council of New South Wales in 1871, and in 1877 was invested with the Companionship of the Order of St Michael and St George for his services in the cause of education. When he died, he was mourned by all classes, for he was emphatically a good, unselfish man, and a credit to his native land.

The Sydney press had no account of his early career, save the bare statement that he was a Scotsman. However, an old Dumfriesshire lady, the late Mrs Howat, who had been resident in Melbourne before the gold discoveries, gave me some particulars at the time of his death. She said that Professor Smith and his sister frequently visited them in Melbourne, and occasionally resided with them. She assured me that Professor Smith endured many severe privations ere he obtained his Sydney appointment, and that his father's name was Roderick Smith, blacksmith in Aberdeenshire. I made a note of this at the time, as I was glad to learn that this worthy Scot belonged to our county, and thought that I would learn nothing more of his pereutage; but I was agreeably mistaken. On a visit to the old country in 1903 I stayed for several weeks at the Deeside Hydropathic Establishment, Murtle, conducted by the late lamented Dr Stewart. One Sunday while there I went to Culter Church, in the vicinity, and after service I looked at the little graveyard surrounding the kirk. One of the first headstones I saw was in memory of Roderick Smith, a native of Glengairn, who had settled in Culter as the village blacksmith, and his son, Professor Smith, of New South Wales, is alluded to at the base of the stone almost level with the grass. Mrs Howat's information was correct, and in all probability Professor Smith was born in Culter, which, according to my way of thinking, confers a lustre on the locality as the birthplace of one of the purest and noblest men who ever settled in the Australian Colonies.

ALBA.

[The foregoing statement by "Alba" is quite correct. We know the headstone referred to (a red polished granite one), which stands close to the south-east corner of the older portion of the graveyard of Peterculter. Its inscription bears that Roderick Smith, blacksmith, was born at Ballochan, Glengairn, 12th January, 1776, and that after a residence of 21 years at Peterculter he died 3rd May, 1830, aged 54. His son John's death is recorded as above, but no mention whatever is made of his degrees, title, or profession. It is known, however, that he was born at Peterculter 12th December, 1821.—ED.]

The Protection of Ancient Monuments.

The "Local Government Review" for May has an article on this subject by Nigel Bond, M.A., which gives an outline of recent legislation, of bodies now concerned in the preservation of antiquities, and of the work actually accomplished. On this last point, the article says:—

The Commissioners of Works have now under their guardianship, in accordance with the provisions of the Ancient Monuments Acts, some 55 monuments. The most important of these are Old Sarum and Silbury Hill, in Wiltshire; the magnificent earthworks known as Maiden Castle, near Dorchester; Kits Coty House, the well-known Kentish dolmen; the West Kennet Long Barrow, near Marlborough; several circles and other stone groups; while among buildings of a different kind they have taken charge of "Mar's Work" at Stirling, and, quite recently, of the majestic ruins of Richmond Castle, in Yorkshire. It must be borne in mind that the action of the Office of Works in this matter is under the control of the Treasury, and it is not every Chancellor of the Exchequer who is able or willing to sanction any large expenditure. It is to be hoped that ere long Parliament will make an annual grant to be expended in the purchase and maintenance of historic monuments, either by the Office of Works or by the National Trust, just as it makes a grant for the use of the Trustees of the National Gallery.

In considering what has been done by local, as distinct from national, government, it may be noted that the London County Council has powers under its General Powers Act of 1898, as well as under the General Act of 1900. By purchasing and repairing the beautiful house known as 17 Fleet Street the Council have earned the gratitude of all Londoners, as well as of all admirers of the architecture of the Elizabethan or Early Jacobean period. The house was built about 1610, probably as an office of the Duchy of Cornwall. It contains a very fine contemporary ceiling and some good carving. Over £20,000 was spent upon the purchase of the freehold, and, when acquired, considerable additional sums were spent upon altering the premises. As has been done more recently by the city of Bristol in the case of the "Old Dutch House," the ground floor of No. 17 Fleet Street has been set back in order to allow for the widening of the street—the upper floor being supported on cantilevers in its original position. This floor contains the large room known as the Council chamber, in which are the ceiling and carving already mentioned. This room is now open to public inspection. It ought to be said that the City Corporation made a contribution towards the cost in consideration of the public advantage to be derived from the widening of the street. The London County Council has also taken over the responsibility, formerly discharged by the Society of Arts, of recording, by means of tablets placed on the houses, the residences of eminent persons.

Among the provincial County Councils perhaps the most satisfactory example has been set by the Council of Northamptonshire. There a special "Ancient Monuments and County Records Committee" has been appointed. This committee has communicated with all the urban and rural district Councils in the county, calling their attention to the provisions of the Ancient Monuments Act of 1900, and informing them that they will be pleased to assist by advice, contributions, or otherwise, in the preservation of any of the historic monuments of their district. The committee also confers with the Roads and Bridges Committee as to the method of carrying out the necessary work whenever it is proposed to alter or repair any of the ancient bridges in the county. And, further, the committee has taken charge of the Queen Eleanor Cross which still stands near Northampton. This cross is one of the only three now remaining of the crosses erected from 1291 to 1294, to mark the places where the body of Queen Eleanor, the consort of Edward I., rested each night when being carried in solemn procession to Westminster for burial. Necessary repairs had from time to time been carried out, in the eighteenth century by order of the justices, and in the nineteenth century by public subscription; but the cross, which stands by the roadside, was exposed to injury by neglect and maltreatment; its future was further jeopardised by an uncertainty as to the body or person in whom the ownership and responsibility for its maintenance lay. Agreement with the other potential owners has, therefore, been arrived at, and the cross duly protected and repaired in a conservative manner.

The Councils of Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, and Worcestershire have taken joint action to preserve the "Four Shires Stone," near Moreton-in-the-Marsh, which marks the point at which the four counties meet. Work of a similar character has been done by the Essex Council, which is bearing the cost of refixing, railing in, and preserving the ancient boundary stones of Waltham Forest, a work in which they have taken advantage of the knowledge of the Essex Field Club.

The Worcestershire Council, which is fortunate in having an eminent antiquarian for its chairman, has, in addition to assisting to preserve the "Four Shires Stone," expressed its willingness to undertake the preservation of Harvington Hall, one of the most beautiful manor houses in the county, but their negotiations with the owner have not been brought to a successful issue. In Worcestershire, as in Northamptonshire, the old bridges are carefully watched; wherever possible the Council has tried to avoid their disfigurement and all damage to their interesting features when carrying out repairs. A contribution was made by the Staffordshire Council towards the cost of extensive repairs which were carried out a few years ago at Croxden Abbey.

The Bothwell Bridge National Memorial has been vested in the County Council of Lanark. In Inverness-shire the chief constable has been instructed to keep a watchful eye upon the monuments. Useful work has been done by the Council of Linlithgow, who have acquired some land in the vicinity to be kept as an open space, and so to protect the amenities of Linlithgow Church and Palace.

Prices of Straw in 1826.

The year 1826 was famous for its "short crop." It may be of interest, therefore, to recall that for that year the Aberdeenshire fiars gave as the prices of the best oat straw 18s 6d. and barley straw 15s. In Banffshire for the year stated the fiars for potato oats was 26s. and for common oats 24s. both without fodder. The fiars of barley without fodder was 27s. The fiars for oatmeal was as high as oats, the figure being 24s per boll of eight stones.

A Striking Prayer.

An old man travelling about to sell earthenware and ballads, having been permitted to lodge in a barn belonging to Mr Gregg (father of Rev. Mr Gregg, late of St Ninian's), was overheard by him the next morning to pray in the following manner—

"Thank God, I have slept soundly to-night, and so this morning am pure and well. Thank God, my ass is well, and has ate a good lock of hay, her crust of bread, and drank a pail of water. God bless us both to-day! and give me

strength to walk afoot, that I mayn't be forced to get up and ride the poor beast, for she has luggage enough already. God Almighty send that folks may want my wares, and that somebody may take a liking to my ballads; and them that can afford it may give me some victuals and drink, that I may not give my ballads to servants for it, when their masters and mistresses don't know on't. God Almighty lead us through green lanes, where my poor ass may light of good cropping, without running into other folks' grass or corn; and that, poor thing, she mayn't tumble down and hurt herself, and break my wares. And God Almighty incline somebody to give me a night's lodging, and that I may have a dry barn, and some barley straw too (an't please God), for I am grown old now, and a hard bed is worse than it used to be. But I don't distrust God Almighty's care, for he never let me want in my life, and so his great and holy name be praised now and evermore. Amen."—"Aberdeen Journal," 9th January, 1822.

Scottish Exhibition of National History, Art, and Industry.

The large and representative sub-committee in charge of the Scottish History and Literature Department of this proposed exhibition, to be held in Glasgow next year, have recently issued an urgent appeal for the loan, for exhibition purposes, of articles such as—(1) Burghal Records, Deeds, etc.; (2) Ecclesiastical Literature; (3) Literature of Social Life, Manners, etc.; (4) Relics of Primitive Culture, (5) Burns Manuscripts and Literature, (6) Heraldry and Heraldic Subjects, Flags, etc.; (7) Early Scottish Architecture, and Architectural Works, Engravings, etc.; (8) Templar, Friar, Allan Ramsay, and Sir Walter Scott Literature; (9) Swedo-Scottish Literature, Art, etc.; (10) Franco-Scottish Art, Objects, and Literature; (11) Early Economic Literature; (12) Literature regarding the Roman Walls; early Manuscripts; (13) Early Scientific Literature; (14) Celtic Literature, etc.; (15) Illuminated Manuscripts, etc.; (16) Cartography and Topography of Scotland; (17) Early Legal Literature; (18) Family Archives, Manuscripts, etc.; (19) Stuart and Jacobite Literary Relics; (20) Scottish Seals, etc.; (21) Early Banking and Actuarial History and Literature.

In the same way the sub-committee in charge of the Ethnographical and Historical Exhibits have appealed for the loan of articles such as—(1) Prehistoric and Scoto-Roman Relics—Pottery, Implements of Stone, Bronze, Iron, Bone, etc.; (2) Articles of Ecclesiastical Use—Furniture, Plate, etc.; (3) Articles connected with the life of Burghs, Incorporated Trades, other Bodies and Societies; (4) Spinning and Weaving Appliances; (5) Articles connected with Lighting, Warming, Cooking, and Baking; (6) Table Utensils of Wood, Horn, Earthenware, Glass, etc.; (7) Miscellaneous Articles of Domestic and Personal Use; (8) Agricultural Implements; (9) Sports and Pastimes—Articles used in Golf, Curling, Fishing, etc.; (10) Early forms of Locomotion, Sedan Chairs, Old Carriages and Saddlery, etc.; (11) Musical Instruments; (12) Furniture and Clocks; (13) Old Articles of Dress, Tartans, Linen, Lace, Needlework, etc.; (14) Pewter Ware; (15) Wrought Iron; (16) Gold and Silver Ware and Jewellery; (17) Relics connected with Early Industries, etc.; (18) Armour, Weapons, Accoutrements, etc., including Artillery; (19) Relics connected with famous Scotsmen or Scottish Historic Events; (20) The Naval and Military History of Scotland—Miniatures, Medals, Decorations, Uniforms, Arms and Accoutrements connected with Scotsmen in the Navy, Privateers, Regulars, Militia, Fencibles, Yeomanry, Volunteers, and in Foreign Service; also Regimental Colours and Trophies, etc.; (21) Coins, Medals, and Badges (non-military); (22) Articles connected with the Early History of Masonry; (23) Articles connected with Superstitions, Witchcraft, Torture, and Discipline.

A guarantee fund of £140,000 has already been subscribed to make the Exhibition a success, and whatever sum remains over, after payment of expenses, is to be applied to the endowment of a Chair of Scottish History in the University of Glasgow. The scheme is worthy of the support and active assistance of every loyal-hearted Scotsman.

Rare Scotch Words.

(Continued.)

NABBLE.—To work fast, as of factory workers hurrying to get their threads together—Arbroath.

NON-WORDIT.—Neglected—Berwick.

NAFFEREL.—Insignificant-looking — Berwick. Cf. "neffit," a puny creature.

NEARBEGYAWN.—Mean, greedy—Aberdeen.

NYAUVE.—To gnaw—Bellie, Moray.

OOTALTIE.—Something to set off the person—Bellie, Moray.

PEELANEAT.—Delicate, sickly-looking—Selkirk Wright has "peelie" and "peelie-wallie."

PADDY LADLE.—A tadpole—Berwick.

PILTIN PYOCK.—A thick, odd piece of cloth—New Deer. Cf. "pilch," a triangular flannel wrapper worn by infants; a "pilchack," an orra cloth. Mod. Eng. "peit," Old Eng. "pylce."

POPER.—The boy who swept out the schoolroom in return for his fees. Cf. pauper—Easter Ross.

PINLER.—A forester or woodman.—Moray.

PENSTRAKER.—A whin-linnet or yellow hammer.—Moray.

RANTER BASE.—To embroider.—Berwick. Wright has "ranter seam."

ROMAN CATHOLIC.—Red admiral butterfly.—Kirkcudbright.

Romie.—A small brown marble.—Kirkcudbright.

Rudder.—"A'thing's gyaun to the rudder" (ruin).—West Aberdeen.

Rae.—A roe.—Bellie, Moray.

Ramscooter.—To send flying in a panic.—Dufftown, Banffshire.

Rinwatter (?).—"Gin a hidna rinwatter, aw think aw wid gie up the bisness a' thegidder."

Stoddert or Studdert.—Grassy patches on hill sides or between hills where there's a fresh spring of water—Gartly, Aberdeen. Wright gives "stud" a row of small trees cut off about two feet above the ground, and left to sprout to mark a boundary.

Screel.—To scream—Stirling.

Scooter.—The throwing out of money to children on the occasion of a marriage—Selkirk.

Stookie.—Bashful, awkward—Selkirk.

Scabely.—Untidy, naked—Stirling.

Skirvin.—A thin covering of snow or earth—Berwick.

Scriffan.—A small quantity—Stirling. In Galloway it is "striffan." Wright says that in Caithness it means a membrane; Cf. "scurf."

Splerrie.—Splatter—Stirling.

Scodge. — To do housework — Berwick. Wright gives look sly, or pilfer, or sneak about idly; and "Scodgie," a drudge.

Store.—To win all the marbles in the boy's game; "I stored him,' "I'm stored"—Kirkcudbright.

Skitten.—Delicate at food, pampered—Banff and West Buchan. Wright gives "skit," to caper as a restive horse.

Skluff.—Something large; "A skluff o' a mou"—New Deer.

Skeys.—To move off quickly—Aberdeen. Wright gives the word for England only in form "skice," to frisk, run off quickly.

Shagmahoch.—A small misshapen person—Garioch.

Smucht.—A smouldering—Udny.

Smuchty.—Smoky—Fyvie.

Smoolit-Like-Smatchit.—Meaning doubtful—Aberdeen. Wright gives "smull," a scowl, as occurring in the Isle of Man; and "smuil," in Scotch, means to sneak away. My Kirkcudbright correspondent says that "smool" means there a horse's scowl. In Moray "a smewlikin thing" means a sly person.

Shoomach. — Insignificant-looking person — Aberdeen. Wright gives "sheemach," a matted piece of fibrous substance, a kind of pack-saddle: a thing of no value, anything that is worn out.

Sattril.—Sarcastic—Bellie, Moray. Wright gives Satteral—Tart as a Banffshire word.

Sheeprot.—The butterworth—Bellie, Moray. Probably for "sheepwrot," from sheepwort. Wright has "sheerwort," well-cress, used in Dorset.

Snool.—A tangle—Bellie, Moray. Wright gives "a craven."

Tauven.—Tired or hard driven—Garioch.

Teesick.—A spell of illness—Berwick. In Northumberland, a "teesicker" means an overpowering quantity or task.

Throosh.—To play truant; a "throosh the schule" is a truant—Kirkcudbright.

Tongue-Betrusht.—Said of one who is outspoken, or speaks the truth rather too freely—West Aberdeen.

Tuchle.—A tough morsel, and to chew something tough—Kirkcudbright.

Waltams.—Straps for keeping trousers out of mud—Aberdeen.

Whirly. — Delicate. "Ye're lookin" unca white and whirly"—Stirling.

Wamfil.—Weak, helpless, useless—Hopeman, Moray. Wright gives it as a verb to flip or flutter. Cf. "waff" and "waffle."

Wappy.—Neat?—West Aberdeen.

Weesp.—A quantity of fish; "I hae naething bit a weesp o' eels" as the result of my fishing—Moray.

Wasp.—It occurs in the Inverness Town Council Registers, date 1557, as a measure of fish.

Yip.—A shrew—Berwick. "Yap" in Scotch means eager, forward. "Yip" occurs in Cheshire, meaning an upstart, or scatterbrain; and in Northumberland as a forward child, or youth. In Suffolk, "Yipper" means brisk.

Yirditams.—Little heaps of earth spread over a field—Aberdeen.

Yagiment.—Excitement. "He wis in a yagiment to get at 'im."—West Aberdeen.

[Readers familiar with any of these words are earnestly solicited to communicate to Mr William Grant, Ashfield, Cults, Aberdeen, convener of the Scottish Dialect Committee, the name of the parish, town, or county in which they have heard the words used, adding, if possible, an illustrative sentence.—Ed.]

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1852.

9th January. At 31 Quay, Alexander Cuddie, M.D.

12th January. At Drumblair Cottage, aged 55, Elizabeth Wilson, relict of John R. Thain, Esq. of Drumblair.

18th January. At Oldmeldrum, Christian M'Kenzie, at the advanced age of 106, for forty-five of which she was a recipient of Parochial relief.

11th February. At 125 Crown Street, Janet Lendrum, widow of Mr John Bisset, merchant, Aberdeen.

6th February. At the Free Church Manse, Leslie, Rev. Henry Laird, Minister of the Free Church there.

15th February. At Dufftown, William Taylor, Esq., Surgeon, aged 43.

25th February. At the Manse, Aboyne, Margaret, eldest daughter of Rev. James Jenkins.

2nd March. At King's College, in his 73rd year, Dr Duncan Mearns, Professor of Divinity, and one of His Majesty's Chaplains for Scotland. Ordained Minister of Tarves in 1799, he was translated to the Theological Chair in 1816.

2nd March. At 86 Skene Square, Mr William Brands, late of Turriff, aged 97, for upwards of seventy-two years an elder in the Church of Scotland.

4th March. At Hazelwood, Mrs Isabella Donaldson, relict of Rev. Morris Forsyth, late Minister of Mortlach.

4th March. At Fountainhall, near Aberdeen, in her 85th year, Elizabeth [Ogilvie], widow of Patrick Copland, LL.D., Professor of Natural Philosophy in Marischal College.

23rd February. At Fergus, Canada West, aged 66, Alexander Dingwall Fordyce, Esq., formerly of Aberdeen.

12th April. At 36 Schoolhill, Mr James Torry, surgeon, aged 57.

9th April. At Turriff, George Chalmers, Esq. of Tillymauld and other properties, in his 94th year.

14th April. At Craig Castle, James Gordon of Craig, Sheriff Clerk of Aberdeenshire [and advocate at the Scottish Bar], aged 84.

30th April. At Denside, Mrs Copland, wife of Rev. Mr Copland, minister of Durris.

3rd May. At the Manse, Strichen, Rev. Alexander Simpson, minister of that parish, in his 75th year.

10th May. Mrs Janet Abercrombie, relict of Alexander Dingwall, Esq. of Rannieston, in her 81st year.

10th May. At 18 Adelphi, Amelia Cadenhead, wife of Francis Ogston, M.D., aged 33.

11th May. John Lumsden Shirrefs of Blairmormond, aged 57.

16th May. At Free Church Manse, Auchindoir, Miss S. Nicoll, in her 31st year.

15th May. At Ferryhill Place, Aberdeen, Mrs Mary Bryce [daughter of Rev. John Bryce, South Parish, Aberdeen] or Thom, widow of Rev. Alexander Thom, of Nigg, in her 69th year.

9th June. At 12 Maitland Street, Edinburgh, Mrs Leith Ross, senior, of Arnage and Bourtie.

[illegible] June. At his son's house, Skene, William Wyness, aged 102.

27th June. At Tore of Troup, George Urquhart, Esq., younger of Meldrum and Byth, aged 31.

5th July. At Berryden House, Rear-Admiral David Scott, in his 78th year.

6th July. At Strichen, Mary Adamson, widow of Alexander Gavin, Esq., aged 73.

15th July. At Cornhill House, David Young, Esq. of Cornhill.

22nd July. At Rosebank, John Smith, Esq., Architect, aged 71.

16th July. At Portlethen, Helen—alias "Auld Nelly"—Main, aged 102.

29th July. At Kepplestone, William Henderson, aged 73.

20th July. At Uppermill, Tarves [aged 37], Helen Bean, wife of Mr William [Smith] Marr.

3rd August. At New Byth, Rev. Gilbert Brown, Free Church Minister, aged 80.

8th August. At Craig of Orchardtown, Udny, in her 84th year, Mrs Catherine Brown, relict of Mr Alexander Brown, farmer Rannieston, and daughter of the late Rev. William Brown, Minister of Craigdam.

15th August. At Springhill, Galt, Canada West, Mr James Davidson, late Thread Manufacturer, Aberdeen.

5th September. At 67 Crown Street, William Macgillivray, LL.D., Professor of Natural History in Marischal College.

10th September. At the Manse, Leochel-Cushnie, Jessie M'Combie, wife of Rev. Alexander Taylor, Minister of that parish, aged 23.

3rd October. At Peterhead, the Right Rev. Patrick Torry, D.D., Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld, and Dunblane, aged 89.

30th September. At Tochieneal, in his 50th year, John Wilson, Esq., factor to the Right Hon. the Earl of Seafield.

3rd October. At Milltown of Kemnay, James Sherriffs, aged 103.

29th October. Here, Rev. James M'Lagan, D.D., Free Church Professor of Divinity in Aberdeen, aged 64.

29th October. At 20 Shiprow, Mr John Nicol, Merchant and Shipowner, aged 45.

7th November. At 15 Bon-Accord Square, Mr Alexander Simpson, formerly of Simpson and Whyte, aged 69.

8th December. At 7 Thistle Street, Margaret Ramage, wife of James Rettie, Jeweller, Aberdeen.

15th December. At Woodhill, Lady Grant of Monymusk, widow of Sir Archibald Grant, Bart., in her 84th year.

22nd December. Here, aged 23, Richard Chalmers, C.E., eldest son of A. W. Chalmers, Governor of the Prison, Aberdeen.

25th December. At Chapel of Garioch, Caroline [Mackie, aged 38], wife of Rev. James Greig, Minister of that parish.

30th December. At Durris House, aged 52, Maria, wife of Anthony Mactier, Esq. of Durris.

Queries.

487. The Beginning of the Year.—"The change from old style to new was accompanied by a change of the date of commencement of the year. This was altered from the 25th of March to January 1. In Scotland this change in the beginning of the year had been effected long previously—the year 1600 having in that country been the first year which legally began on the date which we still recognise as the first of the year." Who was instrumental in the alteration here described?

M.

488. Alexander Forbes of Lochermick.—Who was the wife of Alexander Forbes of Lochermick, merchant, Aberdeen, who died between 1738 and 1750?

J. F.

489. Rev. William Bell, Errol.—I am informed that there is a quaint rhyme on the monument to Mr Bell. Would some reader please quote it?

Y.

490. George Hardy, Old Deer.—His name appears on the face of a "grandfather clock," but I fail to find him mentioned in the usual reference books. Probably he was only the furnisher. Can any Buchan reader investigate this for me?

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

Answers.

399. "The Rough Tykes o' Tarland"—This poem, by James Chapman (see "The Scottish Poets, Recent and Living," by Alexander G. Murdoch: Morison, 1883), runs:—

Wi' the last o' the Jameses We saw our hopes perish,
Yet that name, o' a' names, is The ane we maist cherish;
Though oor monarchs in thae days Heard Gaelic but rarely,
It was welcome in wae days To bonnie Prince Charlie.

When oor lads, led to death, wi The Prince sought a far-land,
Then the war-pipes ga'e breath wi' The Rough Tykes o' Tarland.

The rough tykes o' Tarland—The dare-deils o' Tarland—
'Twas his cause elad the heath wi' The rough tykes o' Tarland.

While on high ilka brow flung The bonnet and feather,
And as dawn's ruddy glow flung Its fire o'er the heather,
Round the auld parish kirk they March'd thrice ere they parted,
And they swore on the dirk they War' true and leal-hearted:
Then away o'er the hill, to Their graves in a far-land,
While the echoes rang shrill to "The Rough Tykes o' Tarland."

The rough tykes o' Tarland—The dour loons o' Tarland,
But the cailachs spaed ill to The rough tykes o' Tarland.

'Tis but little we'll care for Foreboding or omen,
When the claymore is bare for The Sassenach foemen;
Let the Seer tell his dreams o' The white rose down-trodden,
And the Baenshee's wild screams o' "Culloden, Culloden"!
Bid him rave to the linn wi' His havers frae star-land—
Bid the piper strike in wi' "The Rough Tykes o' Tarland"!

The rough tykes o' Tarland—The blythe blades o' Tarland—
To be sad seems a sin wi' The rough tykes o' Tarland.

Though the lassies war' wae, yet The laddies war' lauchin',
They war' keen for the brae, yet They paused at the clachan,
And the rough lip was wet wi' The strong deoch-an-dhoras,
While the wailin's war' met wi' The song's stormy chorus.
To yer hames, maids and dames, and Prepare wreath and garland;
For our names shall be fame's, and "The Rough Tykes o' Tarland."

The rough tykes o' Tarland—The lost lads o' Tarland—
'Twas the last o' King James, and The rough tykes o' Tarland.

The poem does not appear in Chapman's published work—"Legends of the Isles" (1878), and it is generally understood that the bard caught by the phrase "The Rough Tykes o' Tarland," composed the piece to harmonise with the older air to which he set it.

G. W.

468. Charles Gordon Rose of Blelack.—Charles Gordon Rose was the eldest son of John Rose, of Jamaica, who was second surviving son of Hugh Rose of Tilliesnaught, by Helen Gordon, only sister of Gordon of Blelack. Charles succeeded either his uncle or his uncle's son in Blelack, and sold it to a vintner—who was no relation—called Gordon or Rose. I should be grateful to know whom Charles married, as his locality seems difficult to establish.

M. R. R. M'G.-G.

472. Douglass of Tilquhilly.—Many interesting genealogical particulars regarding the Douglasses of Tilquhilly are given in the "Family Record, Dingwall Fordyce," II., xlv.lii. Copies of this volume are in King's College Library, and the Public Library, Aberdeen.

H.

The "History of the Family of Douglas of Tilwhilly or Tilquhillie" was published at Bath, about the year 1874, 8vo.

J. R. A.

No. 112.—June 8, 1910.

Genealogical Impostures.

The "Times Literary Supplement" (of May 5) in the course of a review of "Peerage and Pedigree: Studies in Peerage Law and Family History," by J. Horace Round, M.A., LL.D., commenting in particular on the manner in which Mr Round disposes of pedigrees of alleged Saxon origin, says—

An actual pedigree carried back on stepping-stones of genuine evidence over the sundering flood of the Conquest would give any family a rare distinction. Who has that distinction? Has Sneyd, whom a hundred paragraphs hail as sprung from "Eadulf, a Wessex noble, and his wife Ælfwyn, daughter and heir of Æthelred, the last King of Mercia, by the daughter of Alfred the Great"? This glorious pedigree rests upon four of those charters which conveniently rehearse many generations of ancestry. A turn of the expert's hand and they are forgeries apparent; while the earliest genuine Sneyd is discovered, at the end of the thirteenth century, a small socage tenant of the Audleys. As for the Stanleys, Earls of Derby, with whom the Sneyds claim a common origin, their taste is for descent from a Norman invader. Mr Round shows how they first rose by their thirteenth century match with the forester's daughter of Wirral, but allows them the possibility of a "Saxon" ancestry. What of Kingscote of Kingscote, with "Ansgerus the Saxon, living 985" at the head of his pedigree? It is enough to show that Ansgerus's grandson appears as son-in-law of a man who died in 1171 before filing this genealogy among family legends. Tichborne of Tichborne relies upon the boast of an Elizabethan Tichborne, uttered at the gallows foot, for his Anglo-Saxon proofs. Ashburnham is bowed out of court with his preposterous ancestor "Bertram de Ashburnham," the Anglo-Saxon with a Norman name who defended the Norman Castle of Dover against the Conqueror. Shirley would be Anglo-Saxon by reason of the name borne by an ancestor in Domesday; a name which Mr W. H. Stevenson declares to be "above all," not Anglo-Saxon, but Frankish. Hudleston is Anglo-Saxon, because Hudleston sounds so like Athelstan, although the name is clearly that of his ancestor's northern home. But all those who have English family legend at their finger-ends will grieve when the family-tree of the Kentish Derings comes crashing down. Casting doubt upon these "Saxon" pedigrees in the presence of a genealogist of an older school, the present writer met the plaintive assertion that "Dering, at least, is all right." Has he not an Anglo-Saxon motto to his arms, and does not the baronetage attest his unquestioned descent from "Diering miles," who was witnessing charters in A.D. 880? Alas! Dering is far from being all right. Mr Round follows the pedigree until he leaves it bogged in the Kentish marshes among fifteenth century Derings, struggling out of the rank of husbandmen into that of the gentry. The rest belongs to the mass of forgery whose centre was that ingenious antiquary Sir Edward Dering, a seventeenth century baronet, for whom forged Dering shields appear in ancient rolls of arms and forged brasses on the pavement of Pluckley Church. Even the "Saxon" motto is as Chinese to Mr W. H. Stevenson, reckoned an expert in the former tongue. In another chapter Mr Round is at some pains to find an ancestor for the Berties, Dukes of Ancaster, Earls of Lindsey, and the rest, in Robert Bertie, a mason who makes his will at Bersted in 1501, and who will now see his single name stand where once was a line of gallant and highly improbable ancestors, deriving from free Prussian barons of the fifth century.

But the most of these tales belong to the Elizabethan age, a forcing bed of heraldic and genealogical imposture. For proof that the methods of Dethick and Cooke have not yet fallen out of favour, Mr Round gives us the amazing story of what he styles the great Carrington imposture. Three years ago appeared the advertisements of "one of the most remarkable genealogical investigations ever carried out," a family history "of great genealogical and historical interest." Edited by the Professor of Law in Manchester University, it scaled seventeen pounds, and the chart pedigree accompanying it covered thirty-six square feet. It revived a story of which one house of English earls and their many kinsfolk among the landed gentry would willingly hear no more. In an unlucky hour Mr Smith of Lombard Street, whom his friend Mr Pitt raised to the peerage, listened to a plausible genealogist who would trace his Smiths from those Smiths of Ashby Folville who, nearly two hundred years before, had, in their turn, been persuaded that they were no Smiths from a forge but descendants of a "Sir Michael Carrington, standard-bearer to Richard Cœur-de-Lion in the Holy Land." The banker listened. For his peerage title he revived Sir Michael's surname, and became Lord Carrington. His son, the second peer, put off Smith, and became Carrington by surname. And then arose a cousin Smith, who, in a short pamphlet of unkindly and accurate genealogy, showed that the source of Smith of Lombard Street could be followed no further than a Nottinghamshire yeoman, who died in 1641, one of a tribe of Nottinghamshire Smiths of humble condition. The title of Carrington must needs remain in the peerage-book. But it can be with little pleasure that the family which holds it see themselves once again drafted into the train of the Carrington crusader by a twentieth century pedigree-maker. They are brought into the big book, however, by a side wind. For the big book's purpose was to minister to the harmless vanity of a Worcestershire Smith, enriched by nursery-gardening, who had taken a bold step into the

squirearchy by purchasing the manor Ashby Folville. His pedigree is traced to one Robert Smith, admittedly "a poor and landless man," whose marriage is recorded in a parish register entry of 1699. Sheer guesswork gives him as a father a Leicestershire Smith, Thomas Smith of Charley Priory, born in 1578 and alleged by the genealogist to be a knight. There is no proof that Thomas Smith had a son Robert. There is no proof that this hypothetical Robert is one with the Robert Smith of 1699. Nice evidence of identity would be needed in such a case, for few parishes in England have been without their Robert Smiths. Nevertheless the Professor of Law at Manchester does not waste time over such details. He has other difficulties to face. Only a preposterous narrative, dated in 1446, but written in a jargon which betrays a seventeenth century forger, joins Smith of Leicestershire to the old Cheshire family of Carrington. Sir Michael the standard-bearer has not a document to vouch for him, and the extension of his ancestry to "Hamo de Carrington" in the days of William the Conqueror is an addition which shows that the old and bold school of genealogy is still at work among us.

General Grant of Dunlugas.

Readers of Carlyle's "Life of Frederick the Great" will remember the episode at the battle of Kolin, 18th June, 1757, where, suffering a temporary defeat, Frederick determined on capturing an Austrian battery which was very troublesome, and, calling for volunteers, he rallied his troops and set off. The task was too hazardous, however, and the soldiers discreetly retired, leaving only one man to follow the intrepid King. This was a valiant Scot named John Grant, who held the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the Prussian Army. He drew the King's attention to his lack of men by calling out, "Your Majesty and I cannot take the battery ourselves!" The King then desisted from his rash enterprise, but he rewarded his gallant follower, appointing him Major-General, and giving him the command of a brigade at Leobschutz in 1760, creating him a baron of the Prussian Empire, and Governor of the fortified town of Heisse, in Silesia, where he died in 1764.

Some account of Grant's early career will be found in a biographical notice of William Meston, the Hudibrastic poet, prefixed to his poems. When Meston and his brother Samuel started an academy in Turriff about 1736, under the auspices of the Countess of Erroll, Grant was one of the resident pupils. He was a younger son of a Banffshire laird, Patrick Grant of Dunlugas. One day when the scholars were playing at cricket (so it is alleged) a dispute over the game arose between Grant and a son of Gordon of Embo, which culminated in a duel with swords, for, being the sons of gentlemen, they were both armed. Grant was the more expert sword-man, and severely wounded his antagonist; he believed that he had killed Gordon, and accordingly fled. Gordon recovered of his wound, however; but the academy lost favour in consequence of the duel, and was discontinued. Meanwhile, Grant went to Edinburgh, and tried studying for the law, but he ultimately gave it up, as not in consonance with his high-spirited and resolute characteristics.

At this juncture a fine old soldier, who had served under Peter the Great in Russia, and indeed wrote the life of the Czar—General Alexander Gordon of Auchintoul—intervened, and recommended Grant to apply for a commission in the Russian service, giving him a favourable letter to General (afterwards Field-Marshal) Keith, then holding a high command in the Russian Army. Grant interviewed Keith at St Petersburg. Keith was highly pleased with his young countryman, and appointed him at once to a position. Grant signalised himself in many engagements with the Turks and the Circassians, and rapidly attained the rank of Major. When Keith transferred his services to Frederick the Great in 1747, Grant accompanied him, and proved himself an able soldier on many occasions. He was appointed aide-de-camp to the King, and was sent on a special mission to the English Court in 1758, receiving valuable presents on leaving. Doubtless he visited his ancestral home then. His elder brother dying a bachelor in May, 1759, General Grant succeeded to the estate, but he never returned to Scotland to enjoy it.

In some documents Grant has been mistakenly styled "Baron Legrand," as if a Frenchman; but nevertheless he was a true Scot—a valiant, daring man, of hardy constitution and invincible spirit, and one who should not be forgotten in memoirs of Scottish soldiers of fortune. ALBA.

[There is a good sketch of Grant of Dunlugas in "A Fallen Star, or the Scots of Frederick: A Tale of the Seven Years' War," by Charles Lowe. (London, 1895).—ED.].

Jamieson's Dictionary.

The publication, by Alexander Gardner, Paisley, of "Jamieson's Dictionary of the Scottish Language, abridged by J. Johnstone, and revised and enlarged by Dr Longmuir, with supplement, to which is prefixed an Introduction, by W. M. Metcalfe," and "Supplementary Dictionary of the Scottish Language," with introduction by the same gentleman, recalls to memory that it is somewhat more than a hundred years since the original work, in two quarto volumes, was published in 1808-10 by subscription at Edinburgh.

John Jamieson, D.D., was born in Glasgow on 3rd March, 1759. His father, Rev. John Jamieson, was minister of the Associate congregation of Duke Street in that city. For sixteen years he had charge of an Anti-Burgher congregation in Forfar. In 1788, the College of New Jersey, in America, conferred on him the

degree of Doctor of Divinity. In 1797, he was translated to the Anti-Burgher congregation, Nicholson Street, Edinburgh, where he spent the remainder of his life. Jamieson was a friend of Sir Walter Scott, who describes him as "an excellent good man, and full of auld Scottish cracks, which amuse me well enough, but are 'caviare' to the young people." Being a keen angler, he often had lodgings near Abbotsford in the angling season. Dr Jamieson is said to have been started on his lexicographical labours by Thorbrelin of Copenhagen, who at the same time led him to seek a Gothic origin for the Scottish language, and also for the Picts. In any case, it is true that, when minister at Forfar, Jamieson maintained and educated a large family, and paid court to learning on £50 a year! In 1825, he issued a Supplement of two volumes equal in size to the original book. After the death of Dr Jamieson in 1838, Mr John Johnstone prepared in four volumes (1840-1) an abridged edition of the whole work—Dictionary and Supplement—and this was followed in 1846 by an edition in one octavo volume. Rev. Dr John Longmuir, of Aberdeen, revised and enlarged Johnstone's Abridgement, and took a share in the four-volume edition (1879-1882), for which a supplement was afterwards compiled by Mr David Donaldson. Now there is Dr Metcalfe's Supplement, for which Scotsmen must be grateful, although one is tempted to say that the time appears to be ripe for a thoroughly scientific dictionary of the Scottish language; and in this connection excellent work is being done by the Scottish Text Society, the New Spalding Club, the Scottish branch of the English Association, and similar agencies.

James B. Thomson.

A "Hewin" Book Inscription.

On the fly leaves of "The Mariner's New Kalender" (1729) there appears the following—

Robert Hewin, his book, Novemr.
the 5th Day, 1730.
A book is a thing, A Rope is a Nother.
Stele not the one For fere of the
Othere. 1730.

Prior to belonging to Hewin, the book appears to have been the property of a certain Robert Hill and Alexander Low.

"The Mariner's New Kalendar" tells on its bastard title that it is "Stampt" (according to a late Act of Parliament) "with Three Two Penny Stampts." These are accordingly struck in red ink below in a straight line. The title-page of the book, which is a very lengthy affair, informs us that the author is Nathaniel Colson, Student in the Mathematicks. London: Printed for Thomas Page and William Mount at the Postern on Tower Hill. 1729, Where you may have all Sorts of Mathematical and Sea-Books. Qto.; 132 pp.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

"A Fruitful Vine."

Near Paddington, in her 88th year, Mrs Vander Gucht, relict of Gerard Vander Gucht, Esq. This lady had thirty children by her late and only husband, and (except for a few months previous to her dissolution) had never experienced any severe or alarming illness.—"Gentleman's Magazine," March, 1790.

"Set the Thames on Fire."

The following explanation of this phrase is given in a recent novel:—The temse (spelt t-e-m-s-e) was a wood portion of the domestic corn-mill which, in mediæval times, was found in every well-ordered household. If one of the maids was ordered to grind some corn, and chanced to be caught by the housewife moving lazily, she would probably administer a severe cuffing and exclaim reproachfully, "You'll never set the temse on fire." A really hard worker, turning briskly, might, on the contrary, be compelled to slow down through the friction having ignited the temse.

A Reader.

Individual Power.

History furnishes various instances of influence and power wielded by single individuals. The following extract from a letter sent from Grenada, which appears in the "Aberdeen Journal" of 19th January, 1795, provides an additional example on the part of a Highland officer:—

"Among the many misfortunes under which this ill-fated Island groans, we have to reckon the loss of Major Norman MacLean, of the 58th, who, on the 11th October last, was carried off by fever, which still continues to rage here with unabated violence. This brave officer defended the post of Guyave, for five months, with a handful of men, without being ever insulted by the Brigands; but the moment they heard of his death they determined to attack it, and got possession of it on the fourth day after his interment. Every individual regrets his death—the very Negroes testified, by their grief at his funeral, that they felt they had lost their Protector."

Gordonology.

The attention of the large circle interested in the history of the Gordons may be directed to the exhaustive series of chapters on the Cairnfield branch now running in the "Banffshire Herald" from the pen of the indefatigable Gordon historian, Mr J. M. Bulloch. A continuation of notes on the same family will shortly appear in the "Banffshire Journal," while the "Huntly Express" will deal with new material on the Abergeldie Gordons.

16th May.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1853.

6th January. At Albyn Cottage, Aberdeen [aged 75], Jean Scott, relict of Rev. John Cruickshank, Minister of Glass.

20th January. At 26 Victoria Street West, Mr George Carr, Schoolmaster, Logie-Buchan, aged 78.

14th January. At Banchory Lodge, Mrs Catharine Forbes, in her 94th year, widow of Alexander Forbes, Esq. of Schivas, and only daughter of Sir Thomas Burnett, Sixth Baronet of Leys.

9th January. At Stonehaven, Mr Charles Michie, Postmaster, aged 62.

25th January. At Tartowie House, Alexander Ewing, Esq., M.D., of Tartowie, aged 60.

29th January At 1 Fife Street, Banff, Rev. James Smith, Minister of the parish of Monquhitter.

23rd January. At 55 Schoolhill, Rev. Dr Mackintosh, Senior Minister of Aberdeen.

26th January. At 22 Regent Quay, George Thomson, Merchant and Shipowner, in his 80th year.

1st February. Leslie Cruickshank of Deemount, Merchant in Aberdeen, aged 75.

27th January. At Bromley, Kent, in her 87th year, Diana, widow of Major-General Irvine, and daughter of the late Sir Alexander Gordon, Bart. of Lesmoir.

7th February. At Aberdeen, Mary, last surviving daughter of the late George Ogilvie, Esq. of Auchiries, in her 73rd year.

16th February. At the Manse, Cairney, Mary Walker, aged 93, relict of Mr George Cowie, Banff.

20th February. At 26 Silver Street, Miss Elizabeth Forbes, daughter of the late George Forbes of Boyndlie, in her 81st year.

22nd February. At the Manse, Monymusk, Rev. Robert Forbes, Minister of that parish, in his 75th year.

10th March. At 17 Albert Street, Dr Alexander Paterson, late of Bahia, aged 43.

19th February. At 9 Victoria Street West, Helen Gray, widow of Rev. William Malcolm, Minister of Leochel-Cushnie, aged 70.

11th March. At the Manse, Culsalmond, Rev. William Middleton, Minister of that parish, in his 73rd year.

14th March. At Devanha House, John Blaikie, Esq., in his 60th year.

25th March. At 257 Union Street, Burnette Silver, wife of Dr Keith

24th March. At the Manse, Newmachar, Rev. James Jeffrey, Minister of the parish of Meldrum.

1st April. At 11 Golden Square, Donaldson Rose of Hazlehead, Merchant in Aberdeen, aged 73.

11th March. At Toronto, Rev. John Callander, M.D., formerly Minister of the United Presbyterian Congregation, Craigdam.

7th April. At Balgownie Lodge, Margaret, wife of Alexander Robertson, Esq.

17th April. Here, Mr Alexander Aberdein, in his 85th year. He was the oldest printer in Scotland, having wrought at the "case" after reaching four score.

15th April. At Boynsmill, James Allardes, Esq., aged 82.

12th May. At 26 Broad Street, Mr Middleton Rettie, aged 85.

7th May. At Kincurdy, Ross-shire, Rev. R. Milne-Miller of Kincurdy, Minister of Aboyne.

17th May. At 65 Gallowgate, Jean Mitchell, relict of Provost James Milne, aged 83.

17th May. At 86 Crown Street, Helen, eldest daughter of the late George More, Esq. of Raeden.

17th May. At Tomintoul, Rev. George Bruce, Minister of Tomintoul, aged 51.

20th May. At Strawberry Bank, Susan Smart, wife of Dr Ogilvie, aged 34.

28th May. At Cuminestown, aged 50, James Shand, Esq., Surgeon, Turriff.

21st June. At Inverurie, Rev. Charles Grant, Meiklefolla.

9th July. Drowned in the Bishop's Loch, Newmachar, Rev. William Leslie, third son of the late Hugh Leslie, Esq. of Powis, and sometime curate of Driffield.

16th June. At 261 George Street, Eliza Taylor, wife of William Matthews of Pulmuir, and relict of William Wisely, M.D., aged 26.

21st July. At 8 Golden Square, Mary Watson, wife of William Leslie, Architect, Aberdeen, and daughter of Robert Watson, manufacturer, Stoneywood, aged 53.

19th July. At her house, Don Street, Old Aberdeen, Helen Leslie, daughter of the late Mr John Leslie, Professor of Greek in King's College, aged 85.

25th July. James Gilchrist, Schoolmaster, Backhill of Seggat, Auchterless, aged 83.

30th July. At Cullen House, Francis William, Earl of Seafield.

29th July. At Homberg, William Forbes, Esq., eldest son of the late James Forbes, Esq. of Echt.

29th July. Rev. Robert Lessel, Minister of Inverury, in his 96th year.

12th August. At Kininvie, Barbara King Stewart, wife of George Abercromby Young Leslie, Esq. of Kininvie, aged 35.

19th August. Here, Major Condell, of the H.E.I.C.S., in his 66th year.

18th August. At Auchinroath, Lieutenant-General Lord Saltoun.

18th August. At the Manse, Kinellar, Janet Reith, wife of Rev. Robert Fiddes, in her 48th year.

26th August. At Charleston, Nigg, aged 101, Margaret M'Pherson.

9th September. At Southsea, aged 78, Elizabeth, relict of Charles Gordon, Esq. of Fyvie.

14th September. At Banff, James Harper, Esq., Commissary Clerk of Banffshire.

23rd September. At his mother's house, 24 Schoolhill, Aberdeen, Rev. James Gibb Duncan, Minister of the Free Church, Gartly, aged 30.

18th November. At Aberdeen, Rev. Matthew Brown, Minister of Kincardine O'Neil, aged 57.

27th November. At 17 Albyn Place, Clements Lumsden, Esq. [W.S., and Advocate], aged 57.

30th November. At Sunnybank, Miss Paton of Grandhome.

29th November. At Union Glen, Mr Alexander Michie, Master of the Trades' School, aged 46.

1st December. At 7 Golden Square, Elizabeth, wife of William Laing, M.D.

28th November. At U.P. Manse, Tough, aged 67, Rev. John Robb, who was ordained to the charge in 1819.

9th December. At Blervie House, near Forres, Alexander Lumsden Sherrifs, of Blairmormond [aged 56].

26th December. At the Free Church Manse, Aboyne, Margaret L. Hay, wife of Rev. William Robertson.

Queries.

491. Rev. James Gordon, Huntly.—Particulars are solicited as to the parentage of Rev. James Gordon who, from 1640 to 1647, was minister of Huntly. Gordon appears to have been deposed in May, 1647, for conversing with the Marquis of Huntly, who was then under sentence of excommunication.

Y.

492. Dyce Parish Ministers.—A brief list of the parish ministers of Dyce since the Reformation would oblige.

J. Smith.

493. John More Smieton.—Smieton, a native of Dundee, was a musical composer, having three cantatas to his credit. I saw in a Scottish newspaper an allusion to him as "the late Mr Smieton." What was the date of his death?

Alba.

494. Martin Anderson.—This clever caricaturist and book-illustrator, born in Dundee, and locally known as a sprightly artist, went to London about 1890, and soon became known by his illustrated books, "The Satires of Cynicus," "The Humours of Cynicus," "Cartoons—Social and Political," "Symbols and Metaphors," etc. His last published work was in 1895. I have not seen or heard anything further of this artist nor is he amongst the "Men of the Time," although he undoubtedly deserved inclusion. Is he still to the fore?

Alba.

Answers.

342. Trinity or Red Friars of Aberdeen.—Dr Maitland Thomson has kindly directed my attention to a manuscript in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh (Hay's "Diplomatum Veterum Collectio": MS. 34. 1. 10), which is evidently the source of the statement in John Spotswood's "Account of all the Religious Houses."

As this MS. was not made use of by me in compiling my recently-issued "Aberdeen Friars: Red, White, Black, and Gray," and as it contains much curious matter of local interest, I quote the portion referring to the Red or Trinity Friars of Aberdeen.

"HISTORIA ORDINIS SS. TRINITATIS

Anno item 1211 octo annis prius quam Willielmus Rex Scotiae vita defungeretur secundum Boetium Lib: 13, missi sunt duo ordinis SS. Trinitatis monachi ab Innocentio Tertio consecrati in Scotiam, quibus Willielmus Regiam suam Aberdonensem cum multis redditibus donavit. Chronicon autem M S. Dumfrisii sic habet. Praemonstratenses sequuti sunt Monachi SS. Trinitatis de redimendis Captivis, qui sub finem Regni Willielmi Scotiam ingressi sunt. Nam Innocentius Papa qui hunc ordinem approbaverat, duos ejusdem ordinis monachos Scotos, alterum Richardum Haium alterum Robertum Ogilbaeum, in Scotiam ad Guillielum Regem delegavit. Illi vero Summi Pontificis Litteris muniti in Scotiam feliciter pervenerunt. Audientes Regem agere Aberdoniae eo propere contendunt. Forte Rex eodem die quo venerant Relligiosi, venatum iverat. Illi tamen, a regiis servis quoad Rex rediret humaniter accepti sunt. Crastino die reversus Rex et certior factus de monachorum adventu, Litteras Innocentii Pontificis accepit, quas postquam perlegisset, Religiosos jussit introduci ad se. Quibus ingressis, eorum alter Richardus Haius taliter Regem alloquitus fertur:—

"Non putamus te latere, Rex illustrissime, quae potissima nostrae Legationis ad te fuerit occasio. Novit enim tua pietas quomodo supe-

rioribus annis misericors Dominus por servum suum Sanctum Johannem de Matha ordinem Sanctissimae Trinitatis pro redimendis a Turcarum et infidelium jugo miseris et Captivis Christianis fundaverit, quomodo etiam idem ordo multis miraculis confirmatus ab Innocentio Tertio Summo Pontifice fuerit approbatus. Idcirco nos ab eodem Innocentio Tertio supplicatum ad te venimus ut nobis in terris tuis sedes et mansiones habere permittas. Sic-que continuo praecabimur ut Deus qui omnibus secundun opera sua retribuit, te in ultimo illo Die remunerari dignetur."

Haec loquente Richardo prostravit se ad pedes ejus Rex, surgensque utrumque amicissime amplexus est, statimque accersito Guillielmo Elphinstonio Episcopo rem omnem eidem communicavit. Nec mora praesente eodem Episcopo Regale suum palatium eisdem Relligiosis publicis instrumentis consignavit, adjungens agros de Banchowy, de Merelof, de Coway, piscarias in Dea et Dona fluviis, molendina de Skerthak, de Rothemey, de Tyllifully, de Manismuch, quorum omnium extat publicum instrumentum in ipso Monasterio Aberdonensi, quod redditus annuos habebat pro 52 Monachis splendide sustentandis sufficientes.

Statuit porro idem Rex ne quisquam in praefato coenobio monachus degeret, qui parentes non haberet Barones, vel ad minimum Equites. Unde permulti ex hoc monasterio pii et eruditi viri prodierunt, inter quos claruit Beatus Alexander Sophocardius, Concionator tam eximius, ut innumeri ex remotissimis Britanniae et Hiberniae partibus Aberdonem confluerent, ut ab illo in Christiana Relligione aedificarentur. Dum vero in concionibus suis reprehenderet pravos quorundam Episcoporum mores et vitia, indignatus Willielmus Elphinstonius Episcopus eum jussit in carcerem detrudi. Ille vero Episcopi mandato obediens lubens in carcerem perrexit. Accidit autem ut clauso carceris ostio ferrea clavis Lictoris manibus mordicus adhaereret, nec ulla ratione evelli posset, nisi carceris janua apperiretur. Quod ubi Episcopo nuntiatum est, miraculo tam evidenti convictus jussit educi de carcere Beatum Alexandrum, accersitoque ad se, ut sibi ignosceret rogavit. Beatus Alexander nulla se affectum injuria respondit, atque adeo non opus esse cur ignosceret. Episcopus igitur facti poenitens ut Deo et hominibus satisfaceret, monachus ejusdem ordinis induit, ac sancte postea per 8 annos ad mortem usque rexit Episcopatum. Beatus vero Alexander migravit ex hac vita 1227. Scripsit De operibus Sex dierum Lib: 6. Commentaria in Epistolam Pauli ad Romanos Lib: 3, et alia opuscula.

Ex eodem coenobio prodiit Johannes Stewartus Comitis Lennoxiae filius tertio genitus; qui Guillielmo Fraserio ejusdem ordinis monacho in Episcopatu Sancti Andreae successit, quem per tres annos et sex menses administravit; Obdormivit anno 1299. Scripsit in Apocalypsin Johannis Lib: 2.

. . . . . .

Idem Rex Guillielmus Richardo Haya Episcopatum Dumblanensem, et Roberto Ogilbeo Episcopatum Lismorensem concessit, qui Romam continuo profecti ab eodem Innocentio inaugurati sunt. Richardus autem Episcopatum per sexdecim annos administravit, Robertus autem per sex annos sedit.

. . . . . .

p. 577.

Anno 1234 floruit Johannes a Sacro Bosco qui institutum professus est in Regio coenobio Aberdonensi. Is primo Canonicus Regularis ordinis Sancti Augustini vixit in monasterio Halywood quod fundaverat Deo Virgilia Comitissa Gallowidiae. Aubertus Myraeus asserit eum fatis cessisse anno 1236, cui consonat epigraphe cippi sepulchralis ejusdem apud Maturinos Parisiis, ubi ille bustum accepit, cui insculpta sphaera cum his versiculis.

De Sacro Bosco qui computista Johannes
Tempora discrevit jacet hic a tempore raptus
Tempora qui sequeris memor esto quod morieris
Si miser es plora, miserans pro me precor ora.

Is institutum ordinis suscepit apud Aberdoniam, indo Lutetiam Parisiorum vocatus a Majore Ministro haesit apud Maturinos suos, ubi etiam renunciatus est Doctor Parisiensis. Scripsit opusculum toto orbe celebre de Sphaera."

It will be seen that Father Hay bases his account largely on Boece and Dempster, but neither of these is responsible for the statement that John de Sacro Bosco was an Aberdeen Red Friar.

University Library. P. J. ANDERSON.

482. THE DUKES OF GORDON.—The second Duke of Gordon, who died in 1728, was the last of the Catholic Dukes of Gordon. "His wife brought Protestantism into the family," says Mr John Malcolm Bulloch ("The 1st Duke of Gordon": Huntly, 1903). "The Duke, who had ever been a zealous Catholic, teaching the little Marquis, his son, to serve Mass in St Ninian's Chapel, had, however, married a Protestant, the Lady Henrietta Mordaunt. The Duchess promised her dying husband that she would keep their relative, Father Robert Gordon, as chaplain, to instruct and bring up their children. However, on the very first Sunday following the death of the Duke, this promise was broken, and the children were taken to the Protestant Church." ("The Catholic Highlands of Scotland," by Dom. Odo Blundell, O.S.B. Vol. I.: Edinburgh and London, 1909.) The life of Father Robert Gordon was dealt with by Mr Bulloch in the "Huntly Express" of December 25th, 1908.

A.

449. CAPTAIN DAVID SCOTT, ROYAL NAVY.—His name appears amongst the members of the Aberdeen Golf Club, who met in Wood's Tavern, the first day of July, 1815. (Smith's "Aberdeen Golfers," p. 23.)

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

485. WILLIAM FARQUHARSON. — Margaret Stewart, widow of William Farquharson, was married to Alexander Grant in Fechlie, afterwards in Glencarvie. She died before February, 1755.

T. P.

No. 113.—June 15, 1910.

Descendants and Collateral Relatives of King Edward.

"The 'Illustrated London News' Record of the Life and Reign of Edward the Seventh," issued in connection with the death and funeral of the late monarch, contained a very graphic representation—in the form of a genealogical tree, with portraits—of the descendants and collateral relatives of King Edward. The following are what may be termed the "bald" details, though unfortunately they lack the emphatic character produced by the genealogical arrangement and the portraits:—

King Edward had two sons and three daughters—the late Duke of Clarence, King George V., the Princess Royal (Duchess of Fife), Princess Victoria, and Princess Maud (Queen of Norway).

He had nine grandchildren, namely—Children of George V.—Prince Edward (now Duke of Cornwall), Prince Albert, Prince Henry, Prince George, Prince John, and Princess Mary; Children of the Duchess of Fife—Princess Alexandra and Princess Maud; Children of the Queen of Norway—Prince Olaf.

He had three brothers and five sisters, namely—the late Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha (Duke of Edinburgh), the Duke of Connaught, the late Duke of Albany, the late Empress Frederick of Germany, the late Grand Duchess of Hesse, Princess Christian, Princess Louise (Duchess of Argyll), and Princess Henry of Battenberg.

He had 26 nephews and nieces, namely—Children of the late Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha—Princess Marie (Crown Princess of Roumania), Princess Victoria Melita (Grand Duchess Cyril), and Princess Alexandra (Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg); Children of the Duke of Connaught—Prince Arthur; Princess Margaret (Crown Princess of Sweden), and Princess Patricia; Children of the late Duke of Albany—the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha and Princess Alexander of Teck; Children of the late Empress Frederick of Germany—the Emperor William II. of Germany, Prince Henry of Prussia, the Princess of Saxe-Meiningen, Princess Adolphe of Schaumburg-Lippe, the Duchess of Sparta, Crown Princess of the Hellenes, and Princess Frederick Charles of Hesse; Children of the late Grand Duchess of Hesse—the Grand Duke of Hesse, Princess Louis of Battenberg, the Grand Duchess Sergius of Russia, Princess Henry of Prussia, and the Empress of Russia; Children of Princess Christian—Prince Albert of Schleswig-Holstein, Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, and Princess Louise of Schleswig-Holstein; Children of Princess Henry of Battenberg—Prince Alexander of Battenberg, Prince Leopold of Battenberg, Prince Maurice of Battenberg, and the Queen of Spain.

He had 20 grand-nephews and grand-nieces, namely—Children of the German Emperor—the Crown Prince of Prussia, Prince Eitel Fritz, Prince Adalbert, Prince August Wilhelm, Prince Oscar Karl, Prince Joachim Franz, and Princess Victoria Louise; Children of the Empress of Russia—the Czarevitch, the Grand Duchess Olga, Grand Duchess Tatiana, Grand Duchess Marie, and Grand Duchess Anastasia; Children of the Crown Princess of Sweden—Prince Gustave and Prince Oscar; Children of the Crown Princess of Roumania—Prince Carol, Prince Nicholas, Princess Elizabeth, and Princess Marie; Children of the Queen of Spain—the Princess of Asturias and Prince Jaime.

He had two great-grand-nephews, namely—Children of the Crown Prince of Prussia—Prince Wilhelm and Prince Louis Ferdinand.

The list is by no means complete, however, no account being taken of the descendants of the Empress Frederick in the second and third generations other than those of her eldest son, the present German Emperor, or of the descendants of the Grand Duchess of Hesse.

The "Illustrated London News'" "Record" may be supplemented by the following account of "The Relatives of King Edward," showing how he was connected with the reigning families of Europe, which appeared in the "Daily Mail," 21st May—

Ties of blood connected the late King with every reigning family of Europe, with the unimportant exceptions of Servia and Turkey. There is a link even with the reigning house of Montenegro. The German Emperor is a nephew, his mother, the late Empress Frederick, being the eldest sister of the late King. Prince Henry of Pussia, the brother of the Emperor, is, of course, another nephew, and Princess Henry is a niece of the late King, being the daughter of the Princess Alice, Grand Duchess of Hesse, another sister of the late King.

Other children of the Princess Alice are the reigning Grand Duke of Hesse, Princess Louis of Battenberg, the Grand Duchess Serge of Russia, and the Empress of Russia.

Other children of the late Empress Frederick are the Hereditary Princess of Saxe-Meiningen and the Duchess of Sparta, wife of the Prince Royal of Greece.

The marriage of the elder daughter of the Duke of Connaught to the Crown Prince of Sweden is fresh in the memory of everyone.

Other nephews and nieces of King Edward are the two children of the late Duke of Albany—viz., the reigning Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha and Princess Alexander of Teck, the son and two daughters of Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, and the children of Princess Henry of Battenberg, whose only daughter is now the wife of King Alfonso of Spain.

King Manoel of Portugal, King Ferdinand of Bulgaria, and King Albert of Belgium are all by male descent members of the House of Saxe

Coburg, and have a common male ancestor with our own Royal Family in Francis Frederick of Saxe-Saalfeld-Coburg, who was born in 1750 and died in 1806. The Kings of Bulgaria and the Belgians owe their Thrones to election, but the Thrones of Great Britain and Portugal accrued to the house by reason of marriage with Queens regnant.

King Haakon of Norway was the son-in-law of the King, but also the nephew of Queen Alexandra, being the son of the King of Denmark. King Frederick of Denmark and King George of Greece are brothers of Queen Alexandra, whose two sisters are the Empress Marie of Russia and the Duchess of Cumberland. Consequently, the Emperor of Russia is the nephew of the Queen, while the Empress is a niece of the late King.

But Queen Alexandra and her brothers and sisters were not only related by marriage to our own Royal Family. They descended by three different lines from King George I. of England, and as an actual matter of cold fact, Queen Alexandra has more English blood in her veins than had the late King, and consequently Prince Olaf, the Crown Prince of Norway, is by descent the most English person among all the Royalties of Europe.

The other sister of the late Duke of Cambridge is the Dowager Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the last remaining grandchild of King George III., and her son, the reigning Grand Duke, came to attend the funeral of his cousin. The Grand Duke's sister is now the wife of the Hereditary Prince of Montenegro, the heir to the Throne of that country.

The Roman Catholic Sovereigns of Europe are naturally not so closely related to our own Royal House, but they all descend from Henrietta, daughter of King Charles I., who married Philip, Duke of Orleans, a brother of King Louis XIV. of France. Her only surviving child, Anna, married Victor Amadeus, Duke of Savoy and King of Sardinia. Her heir of line is the present Princess Mary of Bavaria, wife of the Regent, and her son, Prince Rupprecht, who represented that country at the funeral, is in the eyes of the Jacobites the true heir of the English throne, excluded therefrom as a Catholic by the Act of Settlement. Among the lineal descendants of Henrietta are the Emperor of Austria, the King of Spain, the King of Italy, the late Don Carlos, and the Duc d'Orleans. The Queen Mother of Portugal, who came with her son, is, of course, a sister of the Duc d'Orleans.

Other descendants of Henrietta Anne, daughter of King Charles I., who include nearly all the Austrian Archdukes, are Boris, the present Crown Prince of Bulgaria, and the wife of the King of Saxony and her children. The King of Saxony himself is one of her descendants. King Alfonso traces his descent through his grandmother, Queen Isabella, with whom the Countess of Paris has a common ancestor in Ferdinand VII. King of Spain, the great-great-grandson of the daughter of Charles I. The King of Portugal is descended from the Stuarts both through his father and his mother, so also is Dom Miguel, the Pretender to the Portuguese throne.

The King of Wurtemburg descends from a sister of George III.; so does the Grand Duke of Saxe Weimar, the Countess Torby, the Prince of Waldeck and Pyrmont, the Queen Mother and the Queen regnant of Holland, and the Duchess of Albany. The mother of the King of Sweden was the great-great-granddaughter of Frederick Prince of Wales, the father of George III., and the present Queen of Sweden descends from a daughter of George II.

Ernest Duke of Schleswig-Holstein and the German Empress, who are brother and sister, descend from another sister of George III.

The present Queen of Denmark is a great-great-granddaughter of a sister of the same Prince of Wales, who married William IV. Prince of Orange, and from the same marriage descends Prince Albert, the Regent of Brunswick.

Lady.

As a courtesy title of respect given to the wife of a landowner the term "Lady" was in general use two hundred years ago in Scotland. The style, however, was not uniform. The wife of John Dyce, merchant in Aberdeen, who built Fountainhall House, is styled Lady Dyce in the Index of Recorded Documents in the Sheriff-Clerk's office; but the wife of Sir John Guthrie of King-Edward—who would now be designated Lady Guthrie—is called Lady King-Edward in the Poll-Book, 1696. Among recorded wills is that of Lady Gight, who would now be called Mrs Gordon of Gight. In some instances the two maiden names of a woman are given, and she is styled wife of a man whose two names are also given, and she is then called Lady, followed by the name of her husband's estate. All this has become obsolete, but the wives of knights bear the title of Lady, to which is added the husband's name.

JOHN MILNE.

Gordons of Mosstown.

(Vol. 1 (1908), p. 125; Vol. 2 (1909), p. 239.)

A tombstone in St Nicholas Churchyard, Aberdeen, bears—

Erected by Gordon [Littershank] Gordon of Mosstown in memoriam of his family—Isabella, who died 9th Octr., 1848, aged 8 years; Margaret, died 13th May, 1862, aged 18 years; also Gordon, died 31st Augt., 1862, aged 15 years. Also the above Gordon [Littershank] Gordon [of Mosstown] died 1st Janv., 1872, aged 75 years. His wife, Helen Anderson, died 22 Octr., 1874, aged 57 years. Also Helen Gordon, died 17th Novr., 1890, aged 27 years; Alick Gordon, aged 4½ years, both grandchildren of the above.

A headstone situated on the right of the main entrance is inscribed—

The Family Burial Place of Peter E[ttershank] Gordon of Mosstown.

Of his family, I am informed that James E[ttershank] Gordon, 23 Beechgrove Terrace, late of Messrs Gordon and Thomson, wholesale merchants, Loch Street, Aberdeen, is a son, and Grace Ettershank Gordon (died 25th December, 1909), wife of Charles Gorrod, mason, 9 Mount Street, Aberdeen, was a daughter.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

The Follinash.

(A FEAST OR BLOW-OUT.)

Dhol a Vhoomper had a brewin',
In Kilmanshenachan glen,
And o' furshot (1), strong and coechan too.
A greedy squeel hes taen.
For Dhol had fund a fallachan (2),
An eilann (3) o' his nain,
Had muckle clauts o' sproudan (4) left
To him in Coulindrain.

Singin', eerin' garin', oear o',
Agus ho ro a vhorie yallie,
Och anee, the Follinash
In Kilmanshenachan town!

Now Dhol, quo' he, to Khetch, his wife,
"Run down to Penlan Mill
For Peggy Vhor here yesterday
Her doorie (5) she did kill.
And fesh saut gleshans (6) frae the chop,
And callops aff the roun'.
For be hainged we'll hae a Follinash
In Kilmanshenachan town."

Chorus.

Khetch, in her brat a kaeper (7) tok,
And pat her sclaffers (8) on,
Then down the hill to Penlan Mill
She spascheringly (9) has gone.
But Peggy Vhor her chop did steek (10),
For her peats they were to cast,
And in the shottle o' her kist
The roun's were locked past.

Chorus.

Anooth a Boortree bush sat Khetch,
While tears her boos (11) did wash,
And back to Kilmanshenachan ran
Ill wi' the waterbrash.
And thus she unto Dhol did say,
"O, Goelach (12) Dhol," quo' she,
"You and your Follinash may gang
To Tuyinreoch for me."

Chorus.

"Now raise your meeshnach (13) every one,
And rout this song wi' glee,
He that will not in chorus join
A clatty belgh (14) is he!
Down on our hunkers let us crooch,
And dance Cockuddy (15) roun'!
While we celebrate the Follinash
In Kilmanshenachan town."

Chorus.

[1. Foreshot.—The first portion of liquid that comes over in distillation: it is a milky liquid, abounding in fusel oil. 2. Fallachan.—An unexpected or hidden treasure. 3. Eilann.—Of the same age. 4. Sproudan.—Spoil. 5. Doorie.—A social animal. 6. Gleshans.—Sethes, or coarsish. 7. Kaeper.—Bread and butter. 8. Sclaffers.—Old shoes. 9. Spascheringly.—Walking boldly. 10. Steek.—To close. 11. Boos.—Countenance. 12. Goelach. — A term of endearment. 13. Meeshnach.—Courage, pluck. 14. Clatty belgh.—A term of contempt. 15. Cockuddy. — An ancient and difficult agile dance.]

Written by Dugald Macilreave, of Corlett's Close, Bolgam Street, Campbeltown. Inscribed, with affectionate regards, to the members of the Kintyre Literary Association, as an illustration of the common conversational idiom of the dear old town half a century ago (1820 or earlier.) See "Flory Loynachan" in Colville's "Studies in Lowland Scots." Sent to Mr M'Naught, Kilmaurs by Mr R. Parker, secretary of the Mossgiel Club, 90 Forth Street, Pollokshields, Glasgow.

Demolition of Gowrie Palace.

The following is extracted from the "Aberdeen Journal" of 31st March, 1824:—The last remains of Gowrie's palace are now in progress of demolition, to make way for a more modern building. This ancient and once splendid structure was reared in 1520 by the Countess of Huntly, and after the mysterious affair in which James the Sixth and the Earl of Gowrie were concerned in 1600, it became the property of the town [of Perth]. The town gifted it to the Duke of Cumberland in 1745. From him it descended to the Crown: reverted again to the town [of Perth]: and will now be remembered only in Scottish story.

Aberdeen Interments.

In a long article which appeared in the "Aberdeen Journal" of 15th January, 1851, upon the Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials of the city in 1850, interesting statistics are given as to the disposal of the dead for the three years 1848, 1849, and 1850, thus—

	No. of Interments in 1848.	1849.	1850.
St Nicholas Churchyard	825	134	124
St Clement's Churchyard	255	334	308
Nellfield Cemetery	252	160	106
John Knox's Burying-ground	57	59	41
St Peter's Cemetery (Spital)	1071	719	622
Catholic Burying-ground (Spital)	2	4	4
Oldmachar Churchyard	382	267	180
	2844	1677	1385

Taking 1849 as an average year of mortality, some conception may be formed, from the above tables, of the fearful extent of the mortality of 1848; while as to 1850, it is apparent that the general health was good, and the mortality considerably under the average.

A Remarkable Centenarian.

July 10, 1771. Died at Cullivoe, North-Yell, Shetland, Andrew Tait, aged 120. His age cannot be ascertained precisely by any session records, as there are none extant in the parish he was born in of so old a date; but the circumstance of his being a ploughman to a gentleman in the said Island of Yell in the year 1672 is a certain evidence of his being no less than 120, whatever more. For the last 50 years of his life he was supported by the charity of his friends and acquaintances. He retained all his faculties till his death.—"Weekly Magazine," October 10, 1771.

Linlithgow Palace.*

A special interest attaches to this volume from the fact that Lord Rosebery suggests that a suitable commemoration of the late King would be the restoration of the Palace. Five years ago Ecclesiastical Literature was enriched by the publication of "Ecclesia Antiqua: The Story of St Michael's Church, Linlithgow," from the pen of Rev. Dr Ferguson, who, in his further work, "Linlithgow Palace," deals with a subject which appeals to every Scotsman interested in the ancient history of his country and that of its Royal Palaces and Burghs. The massive volume, which is a pattern of neatness in printing and finish, contains nine full-page illustrations, with upwards of twenty smaller illustrations incorporated in the text. Several of the blocks were furnished by Dr Thomas Ross, architect, joint-author of "The Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland," and it is almost needless to state that the accurate plans and views form a distinctive feature.

In the opening chapter it is shown that Malcolm IV. and William the Lion had a manor at Linlithgow. Its stability, however, did not commend itself to the invader, Edward I., who in 1301-2 erected a peel, or place of strength. English soldiers were placed as guardians, and its capture by the Scottish patriots, which is told with considerable embellishment by historians, is here subjected to careful criticism. John de Cairns, sometime collector of the king's customs, had a lease from David II. of the "peel, or park," on the condition that he should "build the manor house there for the king's coming." Robert II., the succeeding king, was duly proclaimed at Linlithgow, and on the occasion of his visit in 1388 he leased to his "dear and faithful burgesses" there, the "dear burgh," with its port at Blackness, the consideration being a rent of £5 stg.

James I. was the actual builder of Linlithgow Palace, and numerous particulars are furnished of how, between 1424 and 1435, a capital sum of £4518 8s 10d was expended on its erection. Much of this amount was raised from the customs levied at Blackness, which was then in a flourishing condition. The disparity in cost of buildings between then and now is explained by the fact that the wages of tradesmen were then only a fraction over a penny per day, "and that even the king's Master of Works considered himself adequately remunerated by a salary of £10 per annum." Details are given of extensive alterations on the palace buildings being carried out in the reign of James IV., as also are particulars as to how that monarch spent his time while in residence. In the morning of each day he had his religious duties to attend to. In the afternoon he was usually busy with important matters of State, receiving visitors, or engaging in the sport of falconry. In the evenings he was equally busy. For sunset brought to the palace "Patrick Johnston and the players of Linlithgow that Playt a pley to the King"; dusk brought thither Italian minstrels, who serenaded him; and darkness brought raconteurs, who, like Souter Johnnie, told their "queerest stories." All these having pocketed their reward and retired from the palace, the king ended the day by playing "at the cartis, dice, or the tables" with the Archbishop of St Andrews, the Earl of Angus, the Laird of Halkhead, or others, at which pastimes, it must be confessed, there was a good deal of gambling. It is to be feared, too, judging from the frequency with which the king "took money from the Thesaurer's purs," that His Majesty's skill at cards, dice, or tables was not equal to his fondness for these games. The birth in the palace, on 8th December, 1542, of Mary Stuart is duly chronicled, and the leading incidents in her chequered career also find a place. The opportunity is embraced of putting forward the view that Linlithgow Bridge was the scene of Queen Mary's abduction by Bothwell. The Assassination of the Regent Moray is also dealt with, and so likewise is the long residence in Linlithgow Palace of James VI., in 1585, owing to the plague in Edinburgh.

About forty pages are devoted to notes on the keepers and builders of the palace, while a lengthy appendix has matter hitherto unpublished. The principal items are—(1) Paybill of Edward I. for Work done at the Peel: (2) Payments for Building, Mending, and Repairing of the Palace in 1534-35: (3) Letter from the Earl of Linlithgow to James VI. concerning the falling in of part of the Palace, on 6th September, 1607; and (4) Ane Inventar of the wholl Guidis and Geir and wther Inspright Plenishing within the two north eist Chalmers in the Third Transe of the New Work of the Palace, dated 25th November, 1648.

In preparing this excellent work, which is

*LINLITHGOW PALACE: Its History and Traditions; with notes on the burgh and surrounding district. By Rev. John Ferguson, D.D., F.S.A. (Scot.), Minister of Linlithgow. Oliver and Boyd, Edinburgh and London. 10s 6d net.

copiously indexed and provided with an elaborate Table of Contents, Dr Ferguson has wisely drawn from authoritative chartularies, registers, and records, the notes to which are duly enumerated. Several popular fallacies are thus corrected, notably the one held by the people of Linlithgow (and inadvertently vouched for by Sir Walter Scott in "Tales of a Grandfather," V., pp. 271-2) that the palace was burnt by General Hawley's Dragoons on the occasion of their flight from Falkirk in 1746.

The following paragraph by Dr Ferguson in his Preface is worthy of repetition—". . . . Various efforts have been made to turn the ancient ruin to some present use. There was probably a time when such efforts might have met with success, but it is to be feared the time is past now. Had it been converted into a Museum of Stuart Antiquities, it would have had an attraction for all Scotsmen, and, by increasing their knowledge of their country's past, would have warmed their patriotism; but such an experiment before the reign of Queen Victoria—whose affection for the Highlands did more to kill Jacobitism than all the armies which ever visited them—would not have been safe. Now, when patriotism no longer spells Jacobitism, it would be perfectly safe, and, in the opinion of the writer, is the only proper use to make of the building. Failing this, it is better that the palace should remain a ruin. It is the most striking monument which the country possesses of the Stuart dynasty; and, on the whole, it is perhaps a monument none the less befitting that it is ruinous, like the dynasty itself."

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1854.

1st January. At 19 Golden Square, Jane Stronach, wife of Rev. Dr Robert James Brown, Professor of Greek in Marischal College, and eldest daughter of the late Rev. William Stronach, Minister of Marnoch.

7th January. At Cluny, Mr Joseph Beattie, M.A., aged 58, for thirty-three years Parochial Schoolmaster of Leslie.

28th January. At 21 Golden Square, Mrs Elizabeth Brown, spouse of Rev. James Forsyth, D.D., Minister of the West Parish.

3rd February. At 23 Northumberland Street, Edinburgh, Patrick Irvine of Inveramsay, Esq., W.S., in his 81st year.

9th February. At King's College, the Very Rev. Principal Jack, D.D., aged 86.

1st February. At Tonley, Lieutenant-General Patrick Byres of Tonley, Colonel of the 33rd Regiment Bengal Native Infantry, aged 76.

20th February. At 129 Union Street, Mr Walter Stewart, silk mercer, ninth son of the late Rev. Patrick Stewart, Minister of Kinneff.

13th February. At Ellon Castle, Mrs Charles Elphinstone Dalrymple [Harriet Albina Louisa, eldest daughter of Alexander Gordon of Ellon], aged 37.

10th March. At 77 West North Street, Alexander Gray, Rope and Twine Manufacturer, aged 76.

4th March. In his 63rd year, at his residence, Naish House, Somerset, James Adam Gordon, Esq. of Knockespock, Terpersie, etc.

12th March. At Old Aberdeen, in his 87th year, Dr Hugh Macpherson, Sub-Principal, and for sixty-one years a Professor in King's College.

4th March. At Wreaton, Aboyne, Mr John Neil, Parish Schoolmaster.

16th March. At the Parsonage, Muchalls: Rev. James Smith, in his 50th year.

23rd March. At Pitgaveny, in his 63rd year, Lieut.-Colonel James Brander of Pitgaveny, late of the 42nd Highlanders.

13th March. At Bovaglie, Donald Gordon, farmer, Crathie, in the 83rd year of his age, and seventh of the race on the land of Abergeldie, since they left Hawhead of Lochlee.

14th April. At Bridgend, Towie, John Proctor, Surgeon, aged 43.

1st May. At Ury [Captain] Robert Barclay-Allardice, of Ury and Allardice, in his 75th year.

14th May. At 4 Manor Place, Edinburgh, John Farquharson, Esq. of Haughton.

20th May. At her house, Belmont Street, Mrs Barbara Brown, relict of Rev. Ludovic Grant, Minister of Methlic, aged 88.

6th June. At 33 Union Place, Anne Taylor, wife of Nathaniel Farquhar, Sheriff-Clerk.

25th May. At 67 Bon-Accord Street, Mr William Pirie, aged 74.

6th June. At the Manse, Old Deer, Rev. John Morrison, aged 72.

8th July. At the Free Church Manse, Strichen, the infant son of Rev. Alexander Keith.

23rd June. At Rome, Patrick Chalmers, Esq. of Auldbar.

? At Moss-side, Glenlivet, at the advanced age of 105, Henrietta Grant.

5th August. At Durris House, Anthony Mactier, Esq. of Durris in his 82nd year.

14th August. At 108 Gallowgate, Jane Maxwell Cordiner, widow of Rev. James Cordiner, late Minister of St Paul's Chapel.

22nd August. At Crimond, Rev. Alexander Boyd, Minister of that parish, in his 45th year.

13th September. In her 17th year, Mary Jane Hume, eldest daughter of Rev. E. Hume, Minister of the parish of Pitsligo.

18th September. At Peterhead, Rev. Donald Carmichael, Catholic Clergyman, in his 73rd year.

19th September. At 25 Waterloo Road, London, Peter Buchan, Esq. [of ballad fame], formerly of Peterhead.

28th September. Here, John Garrow, late Thread Manufacturer, aged 74.

26th September. At Rothiemay House, Major A. F. Tayler.

27th September. At the Manse, Fyvie, Mrs Margaret Touch, wife of Rev. James Cruickshank, Minister of Fyvie [and relict of Rev. John Falconer, aged 69].

12th September. At the Manse, St Fergus, Rev. James Robertson, Minister of St Fergus, aged 58.

12th September. At the Manse, Pitsligo, Janet [Hay] relict of Rev. James Davidson, late of Lonmay, aged 81.

28th September. At the Schoolhouse, King-Edward, in his 65th year, Rev. James Steinson, Schoolmaster of that parish.

20th September. Killed in action while storming the Russian entrenched camp on the heights of Alma, Robert Abercromby, Esq., Lieutenant, 93rd Highlanders, second son of Sir Robert Abercromby of Birkenbog and Forglen, aged 21.

22nd September. At the Crimea, of cholera, Alexander, fourth son of the late John Chisholm, Schoolmaster, Ardler, Donside, aged 24.

3rd November. At Aberdeen, in his 82nd year, Robert Catto, Esq., Merchant and Shipowner.

10th November. At Macduff, aged 81, James Horne, Esq., Solicitor.

16th November. At the Manse, Kildrummy, Mary Reid, wife of Rev. John Christie, aged 25.

26th November. At 86 Crown Street, Margaret M'Combie, widow of Simpson Duguid, of Cammachmore, aged 49.

1st December. At Westfield, Jane, eldest daughter of the late John Chalmers of Westfield, Esq.

1st December. At 16 Silver Street, Lillias Milne, wife of Rev. J. Longmuir, A.M., Free Mariners' Church.

3rd December. At Powis Lodge, Old Aberdeen, Patrick Forbes, M.D., aged 22, fifth son of the late Rev. Patrick Forbes, D.D., Aberdeen.

12th December. At Old Aberdeen, John Primerose, second son of the late George Primerose, formerly of Raemoir.

28th December. At 5 Springbank Terrace, Arthur Stewart, M.D., Inspector-General of Army Hospitals, in his 70th year.

Queries.

495. Robert Walker, Surgeon in Old Meldrum.—I should like to learn the name of Dr Walker's father, and to know if he was related to George Walker, merchant in Glasgow, who married Ann Cuming in 1796, and died in 1825. Robert Walker married Jean Drummond in 1765.

John Milne.

496. Archibald Forbes of Deskrie.—I wish to know who was the first wife of Archibald Forbes. He had a son named John, born in 1741; and in 1776 he made a marriage contract with Agnes Lumsden. Archibald Forbes was born about 1714, and died about 1793. Deskrie was afterwards called Foggymill.

John Milne

497. Sir Thomas de Longueville.—Is the proof satisfactory that Sir Thomas changed his name to Charteris on marrying the heiress of Kinfauns?

Y.

498. St Peter's Churchyard or Cemetery, Aberdeen.—I am informed that in early times there was a church standing within what now forms the older portion of St Peter's Cemetery. What information regarding this church, is available?

Antiquary.

Answers.

341. William Meston.—"Jacobite" may note that no tombstone stands in Spital Burying Ground, Aberdeen, to perpetuate the memory of William Meston. The records of interments between 1730 and 13th April, 1769, have gone amissing, and efforts to trace them have proved unavailing. Meston died in 1745. (See Walker's "Bards of Bon-Accord," p. 138.)

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

430. Laurencekirk.—It is true that Bishop David de Bernham did not dedicate the church at Laurencekirk in 1242 when he was at some of the neighbouring churches, but on October 19, 1244, he dedicated the church of Conveth (that is, Laurencekirk) two days after he had dedicated the Church of Fordoun.

James Gammack, LL.D.

West Hartford, Conn.

486. Sir Charles Alexander Gordon, K.C.B., M.D—He was the natural son of General Gordon of the Croughly family.

B.

488. Alexander Forbes of Lochermick.—Forbes married Janet Gordon, who survived him. Her will was recorded at Aberdeen 1st November, 1750.

G.

489 Rev. William Bell, Errol.—According to Rogers' "Monuments and Monumental Inscriptions in Scotland" (Vol. II., p. 163), Rev. William Bell, minister of the parish of Errol, died 11th December, 1665, the following lines being engraved on his sarcophagus:—

Here ceast and silent lie sweet sounding Bell,
Who unto sleeping souls rung many a knell:
Death crackt this Bell, yet doth his pleasant chiming
Remain with those who are their lamps a-trimming.
In spite of death, his word some praise still sounds
In Christ's Church, and in heaven his joy abounds.

R. R.

No. 114.—June 22, 1910.

An Earl Marischal Contract.

Through the courtesy of Mr P. J. Anderson, Librarian, Aberdeen University, we are enabled to give the following copy of a contract entered into, in 1671, between William, 9th Earl Marischal, and Alexander Charles, wright, Burgess of Aberdeen, regarding the erection of buildings at Fetteresso:—

At ffetteresso the ffourteint day of July MVIc. and seventie ane yeires It is agreed and condescendit upon betwixt ane noble and potent Earle Williame Earle Marischall Lord Keith and Altrie etc. on the ane pairt and Alexander Charles wrygt burges of Aberdeen on the other pairt In manner following that is to say The said Alexander Charles be thir presents binds and obleissis him his aires and successores To make and perfyt the wryght work In caices and broads ffor the whole windowes In the new hous of fetteresso presentlie building upon the east syd of the court therof And that in good and sufficient maner with the said Noble Earle his name and his Ladies name with both ther armes and yeir of God putt upon the tua first stories one the syd next to the court. As also to build two pair of turning skaill staires with railles on aither syd with turned ballasteres and upon everie plett pillasteres off sufficient wryght work. And that betwixt the dait hereof and the first day of Junij next to come MVIc. and seventie tua yeires ffor the which causs the said Noble Earle binds and obleissis him his aires and successores to furnish and mainteine the said Alexander Charles in timber and uther necessar materialles during the working of the said work. As also to satisfie and pay to the said Alexr. his aires exeres or assigns the soume of Three pounds Scotis money ffor the piece of the caice and broades of each one of ffyftie four windowes so to be wrought be him in maner above written. As also for the saides tua pair of staire caices The soume of Ane hundreth and twentie pounds Scotis money Extending in haill to the soume of Tua hundreth fourscore tua pounds Scotis money To be payed in maner and at the termes following (viz.) Thriescore pounds money foresaid at the said Alexr. his entrie to the said work. And the one just and equall half of what remaines of the whole soume above wryttin To be payed after the finishing of the halff of the said work And the uther halff therof In compleit payment of the said haill soume To be payed at the compleit ending and finishing of the said whole work. And sicklyk the said Noble Earle binds and obleissis him and his forsds To cause be delyvered to the said Alexr. Charles or his order halff ane chalder of sufficient ferme meill with tua bolles of sufficient malt at mertimes next to come MVIc. and seventie ane yeires And ane uther halff chalder of meill with tua bolles of malt at the compleiting and ending of the foirsaid work. And the pairtie failzier and unwilling to the performance hereof binds and obleissis him and his foirsaides to satisfie and pay to the pairtie observer and willing to observe the premises the soume of Ane hundreth pounds money foresd by and attour the performance theirof. Consenting these presents be registered in the bookes of counsell and session or in the bookes of any other judicatorie competent within the kingdome to have the strenth of ane decreit of any of the judges therof that Letters of horning on six dayes and uthers In forme as effeires may pas heirupon And for that effect constituts

ther prors. In Witnes Wherof both the saides pairties have subscribed these presents with ther hands (wrytten be Peter Shirar nottar publick) day yeir and place foresd befor these witnesses George Thomsome Sherif Clerk of Kincarden and the said Peter Shirar. (Signed) Marischall. (Signed) A. Charles. (Signed) George Thomson, Witness. (Signed) Peter Shirar, Witness.

From a docquet upon the back of the contract it would appear that the Principal and Regents of Marischal College became bound to "free and skaithlesse keep the Heirs and representatives of Alexr. Charles, Late Wright in Aberdeen, off all damage and prejudice" on account of the foregoing contract.

Gilcomston Well.

There were many stone cistern wells. One still stands—dry—at the entrance to Oldmachar Churchyard. The Gilcomston cistern well was supplied with water from Gilcomston Well, which is in the angle between Baker Street and Calton Terrace. The well is still there, underground.

JOHN MILNE.

Interesting Anecdote.

The following appears in the "Aberdeen Journal" of 9th July, 1817:—

Sergeant Weir, of the Scots Greys, was pay-sergeant of his troop at the battle of Waterloo, and, as such, might have been excused serving in action, and perhaps he should not have been permitted: but on such a day as the battle of Waterloo, he requested to be allowed to charge with the regiment. In one of the charges he fell, mortally wounded, and was left on the field. Corporal Scott, of the same regiment (who lost his leg) asserts that when the field was searched for the wounded and slain, the body of Sergeant Weir was found, with his name written on his forehead by his own finger dipped in his own blood. This, his comrade said, he was supposed to have done that his body might be found and known, and that it might not be imagined he had disappeared with the money of the troop.

Family Decadence.

A male representative of Simon de Montford, the first English baron, was a saddler in Tooley Street, London Bridge; a great-grandson of Oliver Cromwell—"the patron saint of the middle classes"—a porter in Cork market; and a Plantagenet, descendant of the fifth son of Edward III., a verger in St George's, Hanover Square.—Seton's "Family of Seton," II., p. 735

Bibliography of Aberdeen and North-Eastern Publications, 1909.

The following is a list of books printed and published in, or dealing specially with, Aberdeen and the north-east issued during 1909:—

ABERDEEN. Illuminated views of Aberdeen. The views in this book are reproductions from photographs taken by James Porter, Aberdeen, and blocks made by John Avery and Company, Limited, 105 King Street, Aberdeen. Printed and published by John Avery and Company, Limited, 105 King Street, Aberdeen. Pp. 52.

ABERDEEN. PICTORIAL GUIDE TO ABERDEEN. Fully illustrated, with coloured guide map. Published by John Avery and Co., Ltd., 105 King Street, Aberdeen. Pp. 72.

ABERDEEN. VISITORS' GUIDE TO ABERDEEN (THE). Illustrated. Aberdeen: William Smith and Sons, The Bon-Accord Press, 18 Union Terrace. Edinburgh: John Menzies and Company. Pp. 83.

ABERDEEN ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION SKETCH BOOK. Volume 1, part 1 Published for the association. [George Irvine, 231a Union Street, Aberdeen, Editor and Convener of Committee.] 14 plates.

ABERDEEN ART GALLERY. Syllabus of lectures, 1909-10, at 8 p.m. Admission free. Pp. 2.

ABERDEEN TOWN AND COUNTY ASSOCIATION FOR TEACHING THE BLIND AT THEIR HOMES. Catalogue of Free Lending Library in Braille and Moon types. [No imprint.] [Printed by G. Cornwall and Sons, printers, Aberdeen.] Pp. 11.

ABERDEENSHIRE LINTIE (THE). Being a collection of poems and songs by various authors connected with Aberdeenshire, with biographical notes. Second edition. [Illustrated.] Aberdeen: William Smith and Sons, The Bon-Accord Press. Pp. xv. + 127.

ALLAN, J. B.—Rev. John Duncan, D.D., Trinity Congregational Church, Aberdeen, a memoir and a tribute. [Illustrated.] London: Hodder and Stoughton. Pp. xv. + 268.

ANDERSON, JESSIE ANNIE.—Songs in season. Second edition, with a portrait. Aberdeen: Milne and Stephen, The Caxton Press. Pp. 25.

ANDERSON, PETER JOHN.—Aberdeen Friars, Red, Black, White, Grey. Preliminary calendar of illustrative documents [with a map]. Aberdeen: His Majesty's Printers. [Taylor and Henderson, Adelphi Press]. Pp. 157. [Aberdeen University Studies: No. 40.]

ANSTICE, R. H., COLONEL.—The heroes of the Iliad. [One portrait and a map.] [Privately printed.] Aberdeen: George Cornwall and Sons. Pp. 96.

BREBNER, FRANK.—Sonnets on the Congo crime. Aberdeen: W. Jolly and Sons, Albany Press. Pp. 22.

BREBNER, WILLIAM. Catalogue of the valuable library of books which belonged to the late William Brebner, Esq., 11 Carden Place, to be sold by auction on Monday, 6th December, 1909, and following lawful days (Saturday excluded). John Milne, Auctioneer, North Silver Street, Aberdeen. [Aberdeen]: Printed by Wm. Mutch, Netherkirkgate. Pp. 48 + cover.

BUCHAN FIELD CLUB.—Twenty-one years' research in Buchan: record of the celebrations of the majority of the Buchan Field Club, held on Saturday, 10th October, 1908, and other matter bearing on the society and its proceedings. Illustrated. Peterhead: Printed by P. Scrogie, "Buchan Observer" Office. Pp. 142. [Reprinted from Transactions, Buchan Field Club. Vol. IX., Part iii., 1908.]

BULLOCH, JOHN MALCOLM.—The Duke of Gordon's Second Regiment. Muster Roll of the Northern Fencibles, 1778-83. [No imprint.] [Printed by John Mitchell and Son, "Banffshire Herald," Keith.] Pp. 8. [Only 20 copies printed.]

DO., DO.—The 4th Duke of Gordon's Third Regiment. Muster Roll of the Northern Fencibles, 1793-9. [No imprint.] [Printed by John Mitchell and Son, "Banffshire Herald," Keith.] Pp. 8. [Only 50 copies printed.]

DO., DO.—The Gordons in Forfarshire, with the lairds of Ashludie, Donavourd, Tarvie, Threave, and Charleton. Brechin: D. H. Edwards, "Advertiser" Office. Pp. 32. 50 copies only printed.

CLOLA CHURCH. Souvenir of the Sale of Work, 11th September, 1909. [Illustrated.] Peterhead: Printed by P. Scrogie, Chapel Street. Pp. 48. [A book of quotations.]

CONWAY, GEORGE ROBERT GRAHAM.—Aberdeen main-drainage works: Girdleness outfall scheme with 2 plans. By permission of the Council. Excerpt minutes of proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers. Vol. clxxvii. Session 1908-1909. Part iii. London: Published by the Institution, Great George Street, Westminster, S.W. Pp. 23.

[CRANNA, W. H.]—The Strichen Educational Trust. History of the Trust: Reunion of Gordon Bursars, 3rd October, 1908: Roll of Gordon Bursars. With a portrait. Privately printed at the "Aberdeen Daily Journal" Office. Pp. 49.

[CROLL, WILLIAM FLETT.] University of Aber-

deen, second record of the medical class of 1895-1900. [Aberdeen: Printed at the Rosemount Press.] Pp. 35.

CRUICKSHANK, L. D.—Medical inspection of school children; some information on the subject for teachers, parents, and others interested Aberdeen: Aberdeen Free Press. Pp. 52.

DEEDES, CECIL, AND WALTERS, H. B. The church bells of Essex, their founders, inscriptions, traditions, and uses. [Illustrated.] Printed for the author. [Aberdeen: W. Jolly and Sons.] Pp. xxii. + 475 + xxxvi. plates. [Only 250 copies printed for subscribers.]

DEY, WILLIAM.—Glimpses of education, recent and remote, with appendices. [Aberdeen: Milne and Hutchison.] Pp. 47.

DO., DO.—Some educational changes and what they imply. [Printed by Milne and Hutchison, Aberdeen.] Pp. 22.

DRIESCH, HANS.—The science and philosophy of the organism. Gifford Lectures delivered at Aberdeen University, 1908. Volume ii. Aberdeen: Printed for the University. Pp. xvi. + 381. [Aberdeen University Studies: No. 37.]

DUNCAN, A. H.—Longside and its people. Illustrated. [Peterhead: Printed at the Sentinel Press.] Pp. 24.

FORBES, ALEXANDER.—Tariff reform, a plea for fair trade (addresses delivered between 1882 and 1889). Portrait. [Aberdeen: The Aberdeen and North of Scotland Printing Co., Ltd., Broad Street.] Pp. 109.

FORBES, ALEXANDER AND JANE F. Catalogue of the household furniture, to be sold by auction at Morkeu, Cults, on 15th and 16th March, 1909. John Milne, Auctioneer, North Silver Street, Aberdeen. [Aberdeen: John Avery and Co., Ltd., 105 King Street.] Pp. 20 + cover.

GAMMIE, ALEXANDER.—The Churches of Aberdeen, historical and descriptive. [Illustrated.] Aberdeen: Aberdeen Daily Journal Office. Pp. 399.

GRAMMATICAL TERMINOLOGY. Interim Report of the Joint Committee on Grammatical Terminology. [Aberdeen: W. Jolly and Sons.] Pp. 22.

GREIG, GAVIN.—Folk-song of the North-East. Articles contributed to the "Buchan Observer" from December, 1907, to September, 1909. [Peterhead: Printed by P. Scrogie, "Buchan Observer" Works.] [There are 92 articles in the volume, and the pages are not numbered consecutively. Only 30 copies were issued.]

DO., DO.—"Mains's Wooin'"; a drama of northern rural life, with music. Peterhead: P. Scrogie, "Observer" Printing Works, Chapel Street. Pp. 56.

GREIG, R. B.—Agricultural education and research in Canada. A letter to the University Court and Senatus. Aberdeen: The Rosemount Press. Pp. 26.

GREIG, R. B.—Report. 1. On oat experiments. 2. On milling tests of oats. 3. On field trials of barley. Aberdeen: The University Press. Pp. 15. [Aberdeen and North of Scotland College of Agriculture. Bulletin No. 11.]

DO., DO. Report. 1. On turnip experiment, 1907. 2. On rotation experiment at Midtown, Cornhill. Aberdeen: The University Press. Pp. 16. [Aberdeen and North of Scotland College of Agriculture. Bulletin No. 10.]

HAY, JAMES. Catalogue of superior furniture, pictures, old china, crystal, etc., to be sold by auction at Binghill House, Muthe on 1st, 2nd, and 3rd November, 1909. John Milne, Auctioneer, North Silver Street, Aberdeen. [Aberdeen]: Printed at The Central Press (John Milne), 61 Belmont Street. Pp. 32 + cover.

HENDRICK, JAMES. Report on experiments with new nitrogenous manures, 1904-1908. Aberdeen: The University Press. Pp. 29. [Aberdeen and North of Scotland College of Agriculture. Bulletin No. 13.]

HUNTLY.—The official guide to Huntly and district. Illustrated. Issued with the authority of Huntly Town Council, and printed and published by Joseph Dunbar, "Express" Office, Huntly. Pp. 30.

IRVING, MILES. The Irvings of Newton. An appendix to the Book of the Irvings. [Aberdeen: The Rosemount Press.] Pp. 8 + a genealogical table.

KINTAIL. Particulars of the valuable sporting estate of Kintail, situated in the Parish of Glenshiel and County of Ross and Cromarty, embracing an area of about 26,000 acres, and comprising one of the finest deer forests in Scotland, with excellent salmon and trout fishing in loch and river, for sale, by public auction (unless previously sold by private treaty), within The Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C., on Tuesday, 6th July, 1909, at two o'clock precisely. Solicitors, Messrs Davidson and Garden, 12 Dee Street, Aberdeen. Auctioneer, Mr James Dowell, "Lumley House," 34 St James Street, London, S.W. [Illustrated.] Pp. 10.

[LAWRANCE, ROBERT MURDOCH].—An Aberdeen Parliamentry Broadside. [From "Aberdeen Journal" Notes and Queries of Wednesday, June 16, 1909.] [Signed R. Murdoch-Lawrance, 71 Bon-Accord Street, Aberdeen.] Pp. 7.

LESLIE, JOHN.—Elgina's Sylvan Shrine. Aberdeen: W. Jolly and Sons. Pp. 30.

DO., DO.—The Panoply of God. Aberdeen: W. Jolly and Sons. Pp. 69.

LESLIE, JONATHAN FORBES.—The Irvines of Drum and Collateral Branches. [Illustrated.] Aberdeen: ["Aberdeen Daily Journal" Office]. Pp. viii. + 235.

M'CONNOCHIE, ALEXANDER INKSON.—Marriage and Registration, founded on Bisset-Smith's

"Vital Registration." Aberdeen: Printed and published at the "Aberdeen Daily Journal" Office, 18-22 Broad Street. Pp. 101.

Mackie, Charles, Drumoak.—John Grubbor and Sons' Factory; a dramatic story of to-day. Aberdeen: John Avery and Company, Limited. 105 King Street. Pp. 51.

Maclennan, R. J.—In Yon Toon: My Friend Mrs Simpson. Glasgow: Gowans and Gray, Limited. Pp. 135.

Manson, Jeannie M.—John Bull's "Place of Understanding." A short play dealing with Tariff Reform. Printed at the "Banffshire Journal" Office, Banff. Pp. 16.

Munro, Alexander Macdonald, Ed.—Records of Old Aberdeen, mccccxcviii-mcmiii. Volume II. Illustrated. Aberdeen: Printed for the New Spalding Club. Pp. xxxvii. + 435.

North British and Mercantile Insurance Company. Centenary 1809-1909. Illustrated. Pp. 75.

Ogilvie, Joseph, George, and Robert. Catalogue of Books; being a portion of the Library belonging to Joseph Ogilvie, Esq., M.A., LL.D., with a selection from the Library of George Ogilvie, Esq., M.A., LL.D., and a few items that belonged to the late Robert Ogilvie, Esq., M.A., LL.D., to be sold by auction [on] 29th, 30th, and 31st March, 1909. John Milne, Auctioneer, North Silver Street, Aberdeen. Aberdeen: G. Leslie, Printer. Pp. 25 + cover.

[Pyper, Mrs William—Ed.] Quotations. Compiled on behalf of the homes for the children of widowers, Aberdeen. [Illustrated.] Aberdeen: William Smith and Sons. Pp. 99.

Reid, Sir Alexander John Forsyth.—The Reverend Alexander John Forsyth, M.A., LL.D., Belhelvie, Aberdeenshire, 1768-1843, and his invention of the percussion lock, from information collected mostly by Miss Mary Forsyth Reid. [Illustrated.] Aberdeen: the University Press. Pp. 32.

Robert Gordon's Technical College and Aberdeen Endowments Trust Order Confirmation Act, 1909. Pp. 43.

[Sangster and Henderson, 32 to 38 Union Street, Aberdeen.] A record of 25 years' successful trading, 1884-1909. S[angster] and H[enderson]. Aberdeen: Printed and published by George Leslie, Adelphi. Pp cover + 24.

Sim, Thomas R. Forest flora and forest resources of Portuguese East Africa. Illustrated. Published under the authority of the Government of the Province of Mozambique. Aberdeen, Scotland: Taylor and Henderson, The Adelphi Press. Pp. vi. + 166 + C. plates.

Smith, Charles.—The Aberdeen Golfers: records and reminiscences. [Illustrated.] London: Published privately for the author. Pp. vi. + 168.

Speyside. Views of Speyside. [With an introduction by Alexander Inkson M'Connochie.] Aberdeen: Printed and published by John Avery and Company, Ltd., 105 King Street. Pp. 64.

Stark, James.—Priest Gordon of Aberdeen. [Illustrated.] Aberdeen: D. Wyllie and Son. Pp. xxv. + 137.

Taylor, John.—Verbum Sempiternæ; Salvator Mundi. 1514. [Reprinted by Milne and Hutchison, Printers, Aberdeen, for Colonel James Allardyce, LL.D., of Culquoich. The edition is limited to one hundred copies.]

T[ennant], J[oseph]. Jeannie Jaffray, Aberdeen 260 years ago, and other old-world sketches. [Illustrated.] Aberdeen: George Dickie, Bookseller. Pp. vii. + 261.

Thomson, J. Arthur, and Ritchie, James, and M'Queen, James M. Studies on Alcyonarians and Hydroids (third series). Illustrated. Aberdeen: Printed for the University. Pp. 123. [Aberdeen University Studies: No. 38.]

Thomson, J. Arthur, and Simpson, J. J., and Henderson, W. D. Studies on Alcyonarians (fourth series). Illustrated. Aberdeen: Printed for the University. Pp. 319. [Aberdeen University Studies: No. 41.]

Wilson, Thomas (minister of Rosemount, Aberdeen). The Quebec Tercentenary. Illustrated. Aberdeen: "Aberdeen Daily Journal" Office. Pp. 34.

Young, J. M'Lauchlan. Report on the use of Virus for extermination of rats. Aberdeen: The University Press. Pp. 10. [Aberdeen and North of Scotland College of Agriculture. Bulletin No. 12.]

On a future occasion, it may be possible to give a list of serial publications issued during the same period.

James B. Thomson.

Public Library, Aberdeen.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary.

1855.

18th January. At 243 George Street Robert Irvine, Esq., M.D., formerly of Demerara, aged 73.

7th February. At Aberdeen, Mrs Elizabeth Davidson, daughter of the late Alexander Davidson, Esq. of Summerhill, and widow of Robert Shand, Esq. of Hillside, aged 63.

25th January. At the Manse, Knockando, Rev. Francis William Grant, Minister of that parish.

20th February. P. Farquharson, Esq. of Whitehouse, aged 90.

9th February. At Buchromb, George Stephen, Esq.

17th February. At the Manse, Portlethen, Isabella Mathewson, aged 57, wife of Rev. William Law, A.M., Minister there.

23rd February. At his residence, Twyford, Berks, Ernest Gammell, Esq. of Portlethen, aged 47.

8th March. Here, Mrs Mary Mearns, relict of John Mearns, sometime of Newburgh and Peterhead, at the very advanced age of 108.

11th March. At Huntly, Captain Robert Gordon, of the H.E.I.C.S.

25th March. At 3 Golden Square, Catherine Morice, relict of William Johnston of Viewfield, Merchant in Aberdeen, in her 79th year.

25th March. At Drum, Mrs Forbes Irvine of Drum, aged 64.

20th March. At Oldmeldrum, Patrick Robertson, M.D., aged 66.

31st March. Mrs Urquhart [Isabella, daughter of George Moir of Scotstown], widow of John Urquhart, Esq. of Craigston, aged 79.

30th March. Suddenly, at Stralloch, Christina Innes, relict of William Shand, Esq., late of Arnhall, aged 54.

7th April. At 29 Union Place, Helen, widow of Robert Cordiner, Esq., of Peterhead, aged 80.

13th April. At the Manse, Gamrie, Rev. Thomas Wilson, Minister of that parish.

22nd April. At East Park, Drumoak, Helen Adam, aged 70, wife of the late Rev. William Thomson, Minister of Strachan.

24th April. At St Fergus, Mr John Kennedy, aged 87, for many years Schoolmaster of St Fergus.

28th April. At 4 Prospect Terrace, Mr William Reid, late Shipbuilder, aged 76.

11th May. At 12 Chapel Street, Helen, daughter of the late Rev. Joseph Smith, Minister of Birse.

1st May. At Edinburgh, Helen Grant, wife of Colonel Alexander Kyle of Binghill, and only daughter of the late Æneas Macdonnell, Esq. of Scothouse.

17th May. At Rubislaw Terrace, Robert Mortimer, Esq., Iron Merchant

22nd May. At English Mills, St Fergus, Mr John Anderson, in his 92nd year.

25th May. At Hawthorn Cottage, Mrs Gordon of Craigmyle, aged 25.

3rd June. At Balmoral Cottage, Aberdeen, Rev. John Robertson, for twenty-six years Minister of Gartly, aged 72.

16th June. At the Manse, Glenbucket, Rev. Robert Scott, in his 78th year.

6th July. At Forglen House, Sir Robert Abercromby of Birkenbog and Forglen, Bart.

8th July. At 36 Schoolhill, Mrs Harriet Beauvais or More, relict of George More, Esq., for many years Provost, aged 82.

17th July. At the Schoolhouse, Barthol-Chapel, Tarves, Mr Alexander Wilson, M.A., Parochial Schoolmaster there, aged 26.

27th July. At Stonehaven, Peter Christian, Esq., Writer, Stonehaven.

3rd August. At the Schoolhouse, Lynturk, Leochel-Cushnie, Mr David Grant, Teacher there, aged 63.

3rd September. At Peterhead, George Mudie, Esq., aged 69.

15th September. At 4 Canal Terrace, Jean Valentine Don, wife of Walter Hood, Shipbuilder.

24th September. At the Schoolhouse, Logie-Coldstone, Francis Beattie, Schoolmaster, in his 71st year.

3rd October. Here, William M'Combie, farmer in Farmtown of Lynturk, aged 70.

5th October. James William M'Kenzie, formerly of Pitrichie, and lately residing in Banff, aged 66.

10th October. At Rosemount Terrace, Angus Duncan, M.D., aged 50.

16th October. At Palmer's Cross, Elgin, Mrs Elizabeth Ann Gordon, widow of Peter Gordon, Esq. of Abergeldie, and second daughter of the late Alexander Leith, Esq. of Freefield and Glenkindie.

4th November. At the Parsonage, Cumnestown, Martha, wife of Rev. William Temple, aged 28.

14th November. At Newlands, aged 86, Mrs Duguid, relict of the late William Duguid, Esq. of Newlands.

23rd November. At her house, Union Street, Miss Mary Brebner of Lairney.

29th November. At 77 Dee Street, Mrs Elizabeth Lamond, relict of Alexander Smith of Glenmillan.

? At 124 Crown Street, Anne Robertson, wife of Rev. Alexander Cushny, Minister of Rayne.

30th November. At Portlethen, Charles Alexander Ewen, aged 65, for forty-three years Schoolmaster of Portlethen.

16th December. At Edinburgh, in his 76th year, Captain Francis Irvine, of the Bengal Native Infantry, youngest son of the late Alexander Irvine, Esq. of Drum.

25th December. At the Free Church Manse, Woodside, Jane Harvey, wife of Rev. Robert Forbes, aged 35.

15th December. At Oldmeldrum, Rev. George Cooper, Schoolmaster of Meldrum, aged 57.

Queries.

499. Walter Cochran, Town Clerk Depute, Aberdeen.—Can any reader oblige me with the name of Mr Cochran's wife, as also the date of her death?

T. R.

500. Patron Saint of Keig.—Who was the patron saint of the parish of Keig, and when was his feast observed?

B.

501. William Thom, the Inverury Poet.—When did Thom die, and in what graveyard were his remains interred?

Historicus.

Answers.

31. John Burnet (Poles).—This name occurs frequently in the Register of Protested Bills for the eighteenth century in the office of the Sheriff-Clerk. On one occasion the entry has "Poles" in the form given above. At that time merchants appear to have usually taken, in payment of accounts, bills from customers who seem to have seldom, or never, paid them right off when due.

John Milne.

226 and 269. Burnets of Campfield.—The following notes in answer may be of interest:—William Burnet of Campfield, elder, figured as a witness to a baptism in September, 1710. His son was William Burnet of Campfield, described in the same year as "Yr. of Campfield." In 1722 Sir John Guthrie of King-Edward in his testament left to the eldest daughter of his first marriage, Mrs Anne Guthrie, and William Burnet of Campfield, her husband, the sum of 1000 merks Scots, and appointed Burnet tutor and curator to his children—Alexander, Catherine, Jean, Christian, and Mary. William Burnet received Sasine in 1726 on a Disposition by John Lumsden of Carndye, of Carndye, Lyne and Mill of Lyne. One of the witnesses was Robert Burnet of Sauchen. In 1752 Robert Burnet, Yr. of Leys had Sasine on Campfield. John Strachan of Campfield executed in 1763 a Discharge and Renunciation in favour of John Strachan, his son, of a Faculty of Wadsetting Campfield contained in a Disposition, dated 1748, by William Burnet of Campfield, with consent of Mrs Anne Guthrie, his spouse, to himself and his sons. William Burnet married in October, 1711, Anne, daughter of Sir John Guthrie of King-Edward, and had the following family:—1. John Burnet Yr. of Campfield; bapt. April, 1716. 2. William; bapt. January, 1718. 3. Thomas; bapt. 1719. 1. Mary; bapt. July, 1712; married to Donald Farquharson of Auchriachan. She died January, 1795. ("Aberdeen Journal" obituary.) 2. Margaret; bapt. September, 1713. 3. Anne; bapt. September, 1713 4. Elizabeth, bapt. May, 1723. William Burnet of Campfield died January, 1764. ("Aberdeen Journal" obituary.) John Burnet, Yr. of Campfield, merchant, married Jean Lumsden, and had the following children:—(1) Anne; bapt. April, 1744. (2) Mary; bapt. February, 1751. (3) Jean; bapt. June, 1752. (4) Anne; bapt. April, 1754.

J. G. Burnett.

248. Bishop Peter Blackburn. — Bishop Blackburn married Isobel Johnston, sister of Dr Arthur Johnston, the Latin poet, and daughter of George Johnston of Caskieben and his wife Christian, daughter of Lord Forbes. I am unable to enumerate the Bishop's family, but I know that, in addition to the son Peter referred to, he had a daughter Janet, who was married to Rev. Archibald Rait, parish minister of Kintore. Other daughters were Margaret, Elspet, and Isobell. (See New Spalding Club's "Sheriff Court Records," II., p. 73.)

R.

No. 115.—June 29, 1910.

1841 an "Annus Mirabilis."

The year 1809 was in some respects an "annus mirabilis"—remarkable as being the year in which many eminent men were born, among them Gladstone, Tennyson, Darwin, and Oliver Wendell Holmes. A similar distinction is being claimed for the year 1841, the year in which the late King Edward VII. was ushered into the world. A correspondent of the "Scotsman" (May 31) recalls that Mr Bancroft, in his "Recollections of Sixty Years" lately published, in telling us that he also was born in 1841, adds a list of more or less distinguished men in various lines of life who adorn that year. The correspondent gave some of the names, as follows:—

In diplomacy and politics—Lord Cromer, Sir Frank Lascelles, Sir Edwin Egerton, Sir Wilfred Laurier, President Fallieres, M. Clemenceau, and Sir Courtenay Ilbert, to whom may be added Right Hon. Henry Chaplin.

In the Navy—Admiral Sir John Fisher.

In the Army—Field-Marshal Lord Grenfell and Sir Frederick Maurice.

In the Church—The Bishop of Ripon (Dr Boyd Carpenter) and Archdeacon Wilberforce.

In the Law—Sir Edward Clarke.

In sport—Lord Dunraven, Sir Frederick Johnstone, and Mr Gordon Bennett.

In literature and art—Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace, Sir George Reid, and Sir Walter Parratt.

[The following names might have also been added:—

In the Navy—Admiral C. C. P. Fitzgerald.

In the Army—Lieutenant-General William Walters Biscoe, C.B.; Major-General Sir George Arthur French, K.C.M.G.; and David Robert Lyall, C.S.I.

In art—Charles Napier Hemy.

In sundry departments—William George Aston, C.M.G.; Rev. Dr William Baker, Colonel Sir Edmond Bainbridge, K.C.B.; and Sir Charles Cameron, Bart.—Ed.]

John Forbes's "Mariner's Everlasting Almanack."

In his "Aberdeen Printers" the late Mr J. P. Edmond describes this publication under date 1685 and adds, "This is exactly the same as the copy dated 1683 and described under that date. The colophon of this apparently misdated copy bears what I believe to be the true date, viz., 1683." The location of the copy so described is given as the British Museum.

Within the last few days I have had an opportunity of examining the British Museum copy, and have no hesitation in saying that Mr Edmond was mistaken in his reading of the date. The last figure is evidently a 3, but the type is somewhat defective and the whole of the head is not printed. Some possessor of the book added a flag in ink to the defective letter, and turned it into a 5. I examined the figure under a good magnifying glass, and the distinction in colour of the inks is very apparent. To make sure I submitted the title page to another reader, merely asking him what he made of the date. Without hesitation he pronounced it to be 1683.

Mr Edmond's perplexity about this particular copy is accordingly justified, although it is somewhat astonishing that the alteration should have escaped that keen observer. The copies described under the dates 1683 and 1685 being from the same impression, the latter should be deleted from the list of Aberdeen books.

The print is marked "second edition, much corrected and enlarged," and was evidently issued to meet certain charges of inaccuracy made against the first edition by an Edinburgh prognosticator. It contains references to the latter's almanac for 1684, and must accordingly have been published very late in 1683, or even in the spring of 1684, although it carries the former date.

W. J. Couper.

Dr R. S. Mackenzie.

One of the editors of the "Aberdeen Constitutional" during the late 'thirties and early 'forties of the last century was Robert Shelton Mackenzie, LL.D. of Glasgow University. He was a very pugnacious and demonstrative man, mercurial in temperament, and ready at all times for a journalistic scrimmage. He was at perpetual feud with James Adam, editor of the "Herald," whom he contemptuously dubbed "that weaver body frae Paisley," in allusion to Adam's original vocation. Mackenzie wrote a good deal of verse, principally sonnets, and had certain pieces handsomely printed with borders, several of which I have now in a scrap-book. He made things lively in Aberdeen while he stayed, as I have heard old printers say.

It might be imagined from his name that Mackenzie was a Scot, but he let the world know that he was Irish. Probably he had an Irish mother, like his compatriot, the celebrated painter Maclise, whose father, Archibald M'Liesh, was a retired Scottish soldier in Cork, who had married an Irish girl, and whose son's name was alleged to be originally Donald M'Liesh, subsequently transformed and softened into Daniel Maclise, thus confirming the truth of the saying that the children of such alliances

become more Irish than the Irish themselves. Another case in point is that of George Petrie, the celebrated antiquary, draughtsman, and authority on the Irish Round Towers, whose father, James Petrie, was an Aberdeen portrait painter, who settled in Dublin, where his son was born.

Mackenzie was born near Limerick on the 22nd June, 1809. He was the second son of Kenneth Mackenzie, a Gaelic poet, specimens of whose handiwork will be found in the "Beauties of Gaelic Poetry." The father was a native of Inverness, and went to sea in his youth, but left it for the army, in which he obtained, through the patronage of Lord Seaforth, a commission in the 78th Highland Regiment. After the war with Napoleon was over, he was appointed a postmaster at Fermoy, Ireland, where he was noted for his geniality and hospitality. He died about 1842, when he would be close on 84 years of age.

Young Mackenzie was educated at Fermoy School, and latterly at Glasgow University, at which he gained his degree in 1834. He was for some time with an apothecary in Cork, but by 1825 had adopted a literary life, writing for the Dublin and London magazines. In 1828 he edited a newspaper in Hanley, Staffordshire, and in the same year published his "Lays of Palestine," some of which he introduced to the readers of the "Constitutional." He was in London in 1830, writing for various journals, and contributing to "The Georgian Era" a series of copious memoirs of notabilities during the reigns of the Georges. He then edited for some time the "Liverpool Mail," and transmitted intelligence to papers in the United States, being the first European correspondent to the American press.

After editing the "Constitutional" (for how long I cannot say), he blossomed forth in 1843 as a novelist, publishing "Titian, a Romance of Venice." It is well written, and shows particular knowledge of art, while the local colouring is all right. He next, in 1845, edited a railway paper, and then—being appointed the official assignee in the Manchester Bankruptcy Court — a regular source of income was provided for him. How long he kept this position I do not know — possibly he made enemies, for John Bull has no affection for the outspoken Irish alien; suffice it to say, he was dismissed "for irregularities and inattention to duties." This was in October, 1852. He emigrated at once to America, settling first in New York, and latterly at Philadelphia, where he died on 30th November, 1880, in the 80th year of his age. He did a large amount of literary work over there, including the editing of Maginn's "Miscellaneous Works," dramatic works of Sheridan Knowles, "Noctes Ambrosianae," 5 vols., with notes; "Life of Guizot, etc. He was a welcome addition to literary society in the Quaker City, being warmly cherished for his wit, vivacity, and vast knowledge of British journalism and contemporary literature, continuing to the last the same irrepressible, rollicking, care-defying Patlander.

Alba.

Ancient Scottish Manners and Customs.

The following notes are extracted from the "Pocket Dictionary of the Scottish Idiom, in which the signification of the words is given in English and German, chiefly to promote the understanding of the works of Sir Walter Scott, Robert Burns, Allan Ramsay, etc. With an appendix, containing notes on Scottish Customs, Manners, and Traditions, etc., by Robert Motherby. 2nd edition, with supplement by the author. Konigberg, 1828"—

1. Halloween.—This is thought to be a night when witches, devils, and other mischief-making beings are all abroad on their baneful midnight errands; particularly these aerial people, the fairies, are said on that night to hold a grand anniversary. The ceremonies observed on that night by young people, all with a view of knowing if and to whom they are to be married that year, are the following, viz.—

2. Pulling the Kail Stock.—The first ceremony of Halloween is each pulling a kail stock, or plant of kail. They must go out, hand in hand, with eyes shut, and pull the first they meet with; its being large or small, straight or crooked, is prophetic of the size or shape of the grand object of all their spells—the husband or wife. If any "yird" or earth stick to the root, that is "tocher" or fortune; and the taste of the castock—that is, the heart of the stem—is indicative of the natural temper or disposition. Lastly, the stems, or to give them their ordinary appellations, the runts, are placed somewhere above the head of the door, and the Christian names of the people whom chance brings into the house are, according to the priority of placing the runts, the names in question.

3. The Top Pickle, or Pulling the Stalks of Corn.—They go to the barnyard and pull, at three different times, a stalk of oats. If the third stalk wants the top pickle—that is, the grain at the top of the stalk—the party in question will come to the marriage bed anything but a maid.

4. The Fause House.—When the corn is in a doubtful state by being too green or wet, the stack-builder, by means of old timber, etc., makes a large opening in the side which is most exposed to the wind. This he calls a fause house.

5. Burning the Nuts is a favourite charm. They name the lad and lass to each particular nut as they lay them in the fire, and accordingly as they burn quietly together, or start from beside one another the course and issue of the courtship will be.

6. Throwing the Blue Clue.—Whoever would with success try this spell must strictly observe these directions. Steal out, all alone, to the kiln, and, darking, throw into the pot a clue of blue yarn; wind it in a new clue out of an old one; and towards the latter end something

will hold the thread; demand "Wha hauds?"—i.e., who holds? An answer will be returned from the kiln pot by naming the Christian and surname of your future spouse.

7. Eat the Apple at the Glass.—Take a candle and go alone to a looking glass; eat an apple before it; and some traditions say you should comb your hair all the time. The face of your conjugal companion to be will be seen in the glass as if peeping over your shoulder.

8. Sowing Hemp Seed.—Steal out, unperceived, and sow a handful of hemp seed, harrowing it in with anything handy. Repeat now and then—"Hemp seed I saw thee: hemp seed, I saw thee; and who is to be my true love come after me and pou thee." Look over your left shoulder and you will see the appearance of the person invoked in the attitude of pulling hemp. Some traditions say—"Come after me and shaw me"—that is, show thyself: in which case it simply appears. Others omit the harrowing and say—"Come after me and harrow thee."

9. To Win Three Wechts o' Naething.—This charm must likewise be performed unperceived and alone. You go to the barn and open both doors, taking them off the hinges if possible, for there is danger that the "being" about to appear may shut the doors and do you some mischief. Then take that instrument used in winnowing the corn called a wecht, and go through all the attitudes of letting down corn against the wind. Repeat it three times, and the third time an apparition will pass through the barn, in at the windy side and out at the other, having both the figure in question and the appearance of that employment or station in life to which it may belong.

10. To Faddom the Stack.—Take an opportunity of going unnoticed to a bear stack (barley stack), and fathom it three times round. The last fathom of the last time you will catch in your arms the appearance of your future conjugal yoke-fellow.

11. Going to the Burn Where Three Lairds' Lands Meet, or Wauk the Droukit Sark Sleeve.—You go out, one or more, for this is a social spell, to a south-running spring or burn where "three lairds' lands meet," and dip your left shirt sleeve. Go to bed in sight of a fire, and hang your wet sleeve up to dry. Lie awake, and sometime near midnight an apparition, having the exact figure of the grand object in question, will come and turn the sleeve, as if to dry the other side of it.

12. The Three Dishes.—Take three dishes: put clean water in one, foul water in another, leaving the third empty. Blindfold a person, and lead him to the hearth, where the dishes are arranged. He (or she) dips the left hand, and if by chance in the clean water, the future husband or wife will come to the bar of matrimony a maid; if in the foul, a widow; if in the empty dish, it foretells with equal certainty no marriage at all. It has to be repeated three times, and every time the arrangement of the dishes is altered.

13. Halloween Supper always consists of sowens, with butter, instead of milk, to them.

14. Bogles, Etc.—It is a well known fact that witches or any evil spirits have no power to follow a poor wight any farther than the middle of the next running stream. It may be proper likewise to mention to the benighted traveller that when he falls in with bogles, whatever danger may be in his going forward, there is much more hazard in turning back.

15. The Whistle.—In the train of Anne of Denmark when she came to Scotland with our James VI., there came along with him a Danish gentleman of gigantic stature and great prowess, and a matchless champion of Bacchus. He had a little ebony whistle, which at the commencement of the orgies he laid on the table, and whoever was last able to blow it, all else being disabled by the potency of the bottle, was to carry off the whistle as a trophy of victory. The Dane produced credentials of his victories without a single defeat at the Courts of Copenhagen, Stockholm, Moscow, Warsaw, and several of the petty Courts in Germany, and challenged the Scots Bacchanalians to the alternative of trying his prowess or else of acknowledging his superiority. After many overthrows on the part of the Scots, the Dane was encountered by Sir Robert Lawrie of Maxwelton, who, after three days and three nights hard contest, left the Scandinavian under the table. "And blew on his whistle his requiem shrill." From him it went out of one hand into the other, won in gallant contest, and last remained in those of Alexander Ferguson, Esq. of Craigdarroch, as related by Burns in one of his ballads, entitled the Whistle.

16. Wear the Jacket.—This phrase alludes to a custom now obsolete, by which on paying a certain fee, or otherwise making interest with the huntsmen of the Caledonian Hunt, any city aspirant, whose rank did not entitle him to be elected a member of that highly-born society, might become entitled to the field privileges of the hunt, and, amongst others, was tolerated to "wear the jacket" of the order.

17. Beverage.—This is a gift or a compliment paid as a forfeit, by one wearing a new dress. If the wearer is a young woman, she is generally saluted with a kiss on the occasion, which she is expected to permit as a forfeit.

18. Blue Gown.—A beggar who every King's birthday receives a blue cloak, a tin badge with the inscription—"Pass and repass," which he wears on the front of his cloak, a shilling Scots for every year of the Sovereign's age, a pair of gloves, and a dinner.

19. Brose, Brose.—A race at a country wedding, who shall first reach the bridegroom's house on returning from church. So-called, perhaps, from brose being allotted to the victor.

20. Brownie, Brownie.—A spirit or bobgoblin, supposed to haunt old houses, particularly those attached to farms, and sometimes do the drudgery of the servants during the night.

21. Kind Gallows.—The gallows at Crieff. It stood till within the last twenty years (probably reckoning back from the period of the publica-

tion of Burns's works), and was jocularly said to be greeted by the Highlanders as the place "where her nainsel's father or mother died, and where she hoped to die hersel'." Others, as they passed the spot, would touch their bonnets and say—"God plese her nainsel' and the deil d——n you."

22. King's Park.—An extensive and romantic park near Holyrood House, containing many rocks, hills, and precipices the most considerable of which are—Arthur's Seat and Salisbury Craigs. This park affords a sanctuary for insolvent debtors.

23. Lang Bullet.—An iron bullet, sometimes a round stone, about which a broad garter is wound. The end of it is held fast in the hand, while the bullet is forcibly thrown forward on a high road, on which it rolls along with great rapidity. With the same bullet it is contested by two opposite parties who shall gain ground on the other.

24. To Throw the Stocking.—When the bride and bridegroom are put into bed, and the candle out, the former throws a stocking at random among the company, and the person whom it strikes is the next that will be married.

O. A. P.

(To be continued.)

Brodie and Innes Family.

Backed upon an old piece of brown paper which I examined last year a family record tells that William Brodie and Jean Innes were married in the month of May, 1781. Issue—

Janet, baptised November 21st, 1782.
Jean, baptised July 16th, 1786.
Christian, baptised July 12th, 1788.
John, baptised November 6th, 1790.
Elspet, baptised August 21st, 1792.
Margaret, baptised August 29th, 1794.
Alexander, baptised September 7th, 1796.
Thomas, baptised January 27th, 1799.
James, baptised May 11th, 1800.

William. This name is inserted at foot, and probably the particulars of his baptism should have had second place.

The above is probably an extract from Foveran parish registers. The descendants of one of the foregoing tell me that they belong to the same stock as the Inneses of Stow ("Aberdeen Journal 'Notes and Queries.'" Vol. II., 265-266) and that the copy must have been made in 1859.

CAMERON FAMILY.

The owners of the above transcript possess an old family Bible which has the following written on the fly leaf—

Duncan Cameron, born at Inverness, May 10, 1820.

Jean Christie, born at Newburgh, January 1, 1820.

Duncan Cameron and Jane Christie married at Newburgh, November 9, 1845. Family—

John Cameron, born at Newburgh, October 23, 1846.

Andrew Cameron, born at Aberdeen, August 26, 1849.

Isabella Rait Cameron, born at Aberdeen, January 20, 1853.

Jane Christie Cameron, born at Aberdeen, August 16, 1855.

Duncan Cameron, born at Aberdeen, December 10, 1859.

George Cameron, born at Aberdeen, December 25, 1862.

A note in the Bible has Duncan Cameron, shipmaster at Aberdeen, No. of certificate 70,417; No. of fund ticket 716,546.

When holding these transcripts over I made another discovery, which leads me to suppose that several Innes families had endeavoured to make out valid claims to at least a share of the handsome Stow fortune.

Within the folds of an old Bible (the property of Mr James Low, second-hand bookseller, Queen Street, Aberdeen) I discovered particulars of some branch of the

INNES AND HARPER FAMILY.

March 8th, 1835. Baptised Fane, daughter of Wm. Harper, Whiteley, and wife, Margaret Innes, Meikle Wartle.

October 14th, 1836. Baptised George, son of William Harper, North Haton o' Ardyne, Oyne, and wife, Margaret Innes.

March 24th, 1840. Baptised Robert, son of Wm. Harper, Ordyne, and wife, Margaret Innes, born at North Hatton, Ordyne, Oyne, 18th March, 1840.

December 21st, 1842. Baptised Alexander, son of Wm. Harper, Ordyne, and wife, Margaret Innes. [In another handwriting—died in Paris, Ontario, Canada.]

August 15th, 1844. Baptised William, son of Wm. Harper, Ordyne, and wife, Margaret Innes. [A copy of this was extracted by Alexander Leslie, Incumbent of St George's, Meiklefolla, 16th day of November, 1863.]

March 15th, 1848. Baptised John Ferguson, son of Wm. Harper, Ordyne, Oyne, and wife, Margaret Innes. [In another handwriting—Bank of N. Z., Dunedin.]

Then follows the following declaration—I hereby certify that the above entries of baptisms are extracted from the Register Book of Baptisms of St George's Church, Meiklefolla, in the Diocese of Aberdeen. Given at the Parsonage, Meiklefolla (or Folla-Rule), this 21st day of April, 1857, by Alexander Leslie, Incumbent, Folla-Rule.

It would interest me greatly to know where the Innes-Harper family claimed descent from, or connection with, the "Stow stock."

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

Cairnchina, 23 Ashley Road, Aberdeen.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1856.

16th January. At Edinburgh, Elizabeth, Dowager Countess of Erroll.

15th January. At 50 Castle Street, Elizabeth Kilgour, relict of Robert Jamieson, Surgeon, Peterhead, aged 93.

28th January. At Oldmeldrum, Rachel Knight, widow of Rev. William Robertson, incumbent of St Matthew's Episcopal Church there.

9th February. At her residence in Banchory, Miss Mary Burnett, only surviving daughter of the late Sir Robert Burnett of Leys, Bart.

10th February. At 15 Union Place, David Gray, Esq., Professor of Natural Philosophy in Marischal College.

23rd February. At Cullen, George Tait, Esq., M.D., aged 23.

18th March. At Knockleith, James Barclay, Esq., in his 74th year.

20th March. At Edinburgh, Sir Alexander Burnett, Bart of Leys, aged 66.

12th April. At Aberdeen, Dr Neil Sutherland, in his 87th year.

4th April. At Raeden, near Aberdeen, William Gordon, Advocate.

18th April. At Kepplestone Cottage, Alexander Thom, Esq., Merchant, aged 52.

14th April. At Muiresk, James Brodie Spottiswood, Esq., of Muiresk, aged 59.

15th April. At the Schoolhouse, Aberdour, Mr Charles Forbes, for nearly twenty years Parochial Schoolmaster.

26th April. At 57 Victoria Street, Isabel Hutcheon, relict of Rev. William Paul, Professor of Natural Philosophy in King's College, in her 88th year.

20th April. At the Free Manse of Leslie and Premnay, Henrietta Thom, aged 79.

3rd May. At Kingsland House, Elspet Gordon Morgan, wife of James Forbes, merchant, Aberdeen.

4th May. At Dunlugas, Hans George Leslie, Esq. of Dunlugas, aged 70.

10th May. At Dufftown, Rev. George Gordon, Roman Catholic Priest, aged 80.

14th June. At Springbank, Dee Street, Margaret Simpson, aged 81, relict of Rev. Dr Alexander Smith, Minister of Chapel of Garioch.

15th June. At Charleston, Nigg, David Symon, aged 76, for thirty-three years Schoolmaster.

13th June. At the Free Church Schoolhouse, Newhills, Mr George A. Yeoman, Free Church Teacher, in his 36th year.

26th June. At 255 Union Street, Henry Lumsden, Esq. of Auchindoir, late Convener of Banffshire.

25th June. At Banchory, Rev. James Foote, D.D., Aberdeen, aged 74.

? At 150 King Street, John Duncan, Esq., manufacturer.

1st July. At Drum, Miss Christian Irvine, aged 78.

29th June. At Milleat, Rev. Joseph Morison, of the Congregational Church, aged 63.

6th July. At Waterton, Ann Logie, wife of Alexander Pirie, Esq., aged 73.

6th July. At Milltown of Rothiemay, Mr William Webster, A.M., Parochial Schoolmaster, aged 61.

27th July. At Aberdeen, Elizabeth Angus, wife of Rev. Fergus Ferguson.

9th August. At 22 Union Place, Dr Stephen Balfour.

7th August. At Cawdor House, Robert Baird, Esq. of Auchmedden, Lord Dean of Guild of Glasgow.

6th August. At Braid Hermitage, near Edinburgh, Miss Susan Gordon, last surviving daughter of Colonel John Gordon of Cluny.

29th August. At 198 Union Street, Margaret Chalmers, widow of Dr William Dyce, Physician in Aberdeen, in her 80th year.

9th October. At Lumphanan, Rev. Alexander Birnie, Schoolmaster of that parish, aged 74.

5th November. At Woodside, Mr Colin Falconer, late Schoolmaster, New Machar, aged 61.

19th November. At Springbank Street, Jessie, second daughter of the late Dr Knight, of Marischal College.

18th November. At Macduff, Alexander Carny, Esq., many years Provost of that burgh, in his 72nd year.

27th November. At Manse of Keith, Rev. James Thomson, Minister of that parish, aged 71.

30th November. At 84 Crown Street, John Greig, Surgeon, R.N., aged 72.

6th December. At Kingsford, Benjamin Lumsden, Esq. of Kingsford, aged 84.

7th December. At Greentree Lodge, Echt, Mrs Eliza Cruickshank, relict of Dr Cruickshank, H.E.I.C.S.

22nd December. Here, Rev. George Henry, late Minister of Holburn Chapel.

28th December. At Aberdeen, Alexander Robertson, Esq., Balgownie Lodge.

2nd December. At Badenscoth House, John Brebner, Esq., Railway Contractor, Aberdeen.

M

Queries.

502. The Bannerman Family and Frendraught.—The "Aberdeen Journal," in recording the death—which took place at Aberdeen in the autumn of 1750—of Margaret Maitland, daughter of the Hon. Sir Charles Maitland of Pittrichie, Bart., designates her as "widow of Patrick Bannerman of Frendraught," Provost of Aberdeen 1715-16, who died 4th June, 1733. Their son Alexander Bannerman, merchant, Aberdeen, who married Margaret Burnett, eldest daughter of Thomas Burnett of Kirkhill, is also frequently designed as "of Frendraught." What was the real connection of the Bannermans with Frendraught?

Y.

503. George Montgomery.—About the middle of the eighteenth century, George Montgomery, who married Helen Middleton, was engaged in farming near Aberdeen. Could any reader oblige me with the name of his holding and the names of his children, of whom he had several?

T. Y.

504. Colonel William Howe Knight Erskine of Pittodrie.—Whom did Colonel Erskine marry? In certain writs to which I have had access the lady is named "Grace Norwood, only daughter of Captain James Norwood"; in other documents she is called Grace Normand, daughter of Captain James Normand, H.E.I.C.S.

B.

Answers.

197. Rev. Alexander Ruddach.—He was a son of David Ruddach, portioner of Fortrie, and was schoolmaster of Grange from Martinmas, 1668, to the summer of 1677.

S. R.

283. Menzies Family.—There has been only one real attempt to preserve in book form particulars of this much respected clan. This was the so-called "Red and White Book of Menzies," by D. P. Menzies, F.S.A.Scot. Its historical assertions must not, however, be taken seriously, for Mr Charles Poyntz Stewart, F.S.A.Scot, in a review of the work which was specially reprinted from "The Genealogist" (New Series, Vol. xxii., October, 1905), states at the outset that "the title of the work was happily chosen, for it ought indeed to blush for its own existence." It is, in the language of the reviewer, defective in grammar, composition, dates, courtesy titles, translations and transcriptions of epitaphs and charters, consequently throws disrepute on a valuable adjunct to history, and will cause sceptics "to blaspheme." I have little doubt that S. Smith can purchase a copy from the printers—Messrs William Pollard and Co., Ltd., North Street, Exeter, the published price being 1s, with postage additional.

Mr Stewart's vigorous pamphlet was produced four years ago. It was written with the view of purging the book of ridiculous and glaring inaccuracies, which are scattered throughout. Mr Smith can consult the books at King's College, Aberdeen, by applying to the librarian there. The writer noticed that the sale, at Christmas last, of the books belonging to the late Dr Alexander Stewart, Muttle, included a copy of Mr Menzies's volume referred to.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

445. Ables.—This word is believed by many to be derived from the Latin "arra," signifying earnest-money. Others argue that it comes from the Gaelic "iarlas," also signifying earnest-money. The practice of giving money as proof of the completion of a bargain was formerly general, but it is now almost discontinued.

Y.

450. George Davidson and the Legend of St Swithin.—I have a copy of what, from the preface, appears to be the 2nd edition, illustrated by John Faed, R.S.A. It is dated "Lorisbank, Cults, 1854." It refers to "the first and more costly edition," the preface to which seems to have been dated "Aberdeen, 1860."

William Garden.

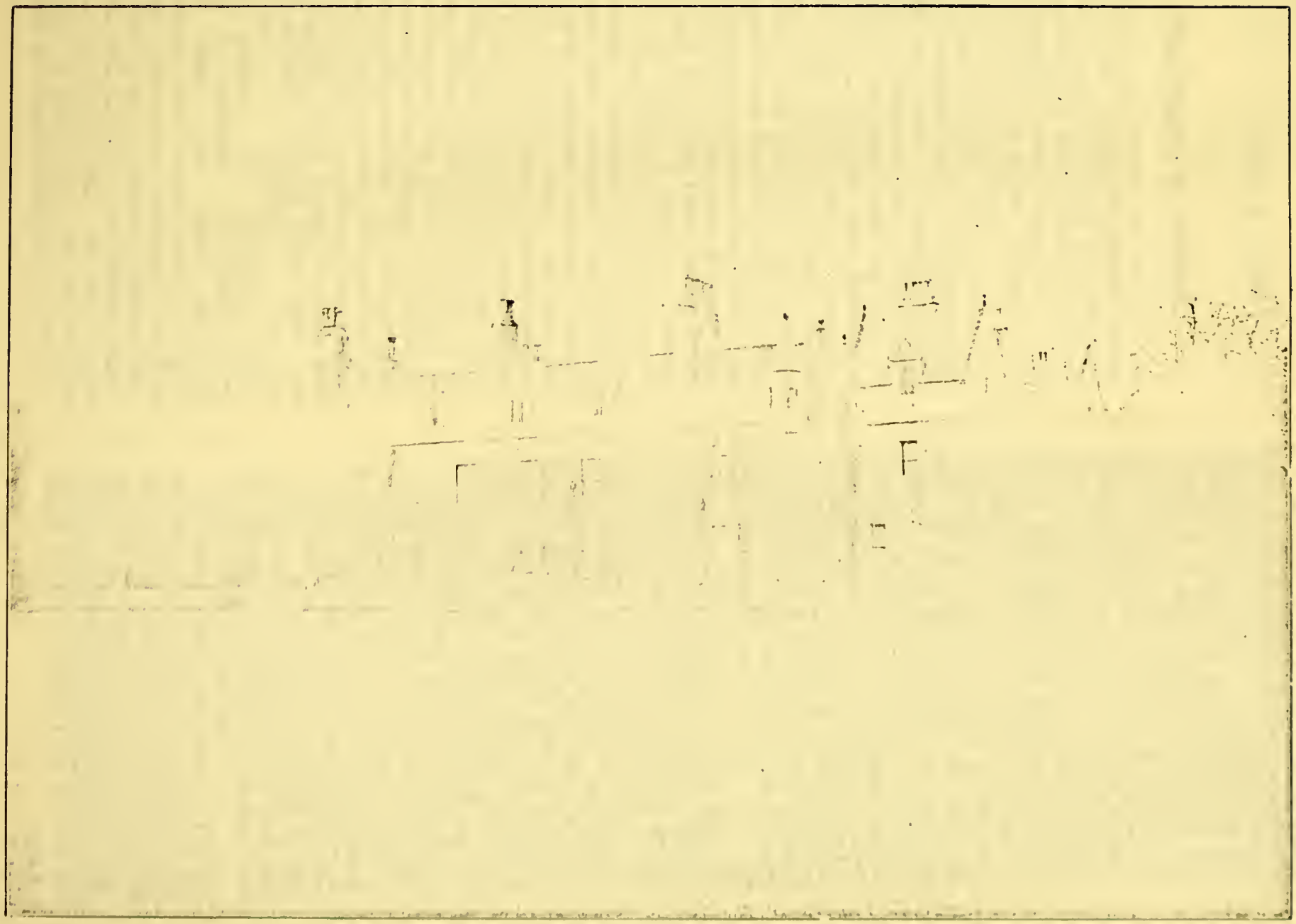
487. The Beginning of the Year.—In Scotland, on 17th December, 1599, James VI., with advice of his Privy Council, enacted that on and after the 1st of January, 1600, the year should begin on the 1st of January, instead of on the 25th of March. (See Registrum Secreti Concilii: Acta, Vol. A°. 1599-1601, pp. 205-206.) This alteration came into general use in Scotland on 1st January, 1600, but it did not introduce the New Style, which was not adopted in Scotland till 1752. One effect of the order was to make the days of January and February and the first 24 days of March (in Scotland) appear to be one year in advance of the corresponding days in England.

In England, in and before 1751, the year began on the 25th of March, and ended on the 24th of March.

In Great Britain the New Style was adopted in 1752 by Act of Parliament (Stat. 24 George II. c. 23, 22nd May, 1751) because the Julian Calendar or Old Style, previously in use, had become eleven days short of the true date, and the error was increasing at the rate of about nine minutes in each year, or about one day in every 160 years.

In Ireland the New Style was not adopted until 1782.

A. B.



Philorth.

No. 116.—July 6, 1910.

The Frasers of Philorth.

The newly-issued volume (Vol. VII.) of "The Scots Peerage" contains an elaborate account of the "Frasers of Philorth, Lord Saltoun," contributed by Mr Alan S. Carnegie, reference being repeatedly made, however, to the still more complete work on the "Frasers of Philorth" by the late Lord Saltoun.

The family of Fraser, according to Mr Carnegie, undoubtedly came from France, but whether with William of Normandy or later is not known. There is a theory—lacking definite evidence in its support—that they were the lords of the Seigneurie de la Freseliere in Anjou; and the name Fraser is spelt also Freser, Frisell, Frissell, Fresel, Friser, Freysel, and Frysell. The first Fraser who appears in Scotland is Simon Fraser of Keith, who, about 1160, granted the church of Keith with a large tract of ground to the monks of Kelso. Contemporary with Simon Fraser was one Gilbert Fraser, who appears as witness to a confirmation by King William the Lion of a charter to the monks of Coldinghame in 1166. There was a Udard Fraser mentioned in the charters of some of his descendants, who lived in the latter half of the twelfth century; and during the early part of the thirteenth century the three chief Frasers in Scotland were Bernard, Gilbert, and Adam, who were all probably the sons of Udard. Gilbert (or Sir Gilbert) Fraser is the direct ancestor of the Frasers of Philorth: he was Sheriff both of Traquair and Peebles, and died probably about 1263. His eldest son, John Fraser, appears to have predeceased him, and he was succeeded in the lands of Touch Fraser, Stirlingshire, by his grandson Richard, who was evidently knighted before 1276. Sir Richard was succeeded, in turn, by his grandson, Sir Alexander Fraser, who is designated "of Touch Fraser and Cowie." At various dates Sir Alexander Fraser received grants of several lands in Forfar and Kincardine from King Robert the Bruce, including Panbride, Garvocks, Strachan, Essuly, Ballebrochy, Auchincross, and Culpressache. He also obtained Aboyne in Aberdeenshire, first on lease, and finally on heritable tenure; and in 1312 he received a life assedation of the lands of Torry, in the parish of Nigg, in lieu of a pension from the rents of Conveth, from the Abbot Bernard and monks of Arbroath. He obtained the barony of Kinnaird, in Aberdeenshire, on the resignation of Thomas de Kinnarde, and had a charter of an annual rent from Pentreche. He also, 18th June, 1325, obtained a charter of the lands of Cardenys and fishings of the loch of Skene in increment of his barony of Cluny, in Aberdeenshire; and on 6th April, 1327, he had a royal charter in favour of himself and his son John of the forest of Craigie, in the thanage of Cowie. He was Sheriff of Kincardine, and also Sheriff of Stirling, which office was hereditary in the family. He fought at Bannockburn, and was killed at the battle of Dupplin in 1332.

Sir Alexander Fraser married, in 1316, Lady Mary Bruce, a sister of King Robert, and widow of Sir Neil Campbell. She had been captured by the English after the battle of Methven in 1306, and put into a wooden cage, shaped like a crown, and hung over the walls of Roxburgh. By her, Sir Alexander had two sons. The elder, John, succeeded as a minor and died young; but he left one daughter and heiress, Margaret, married to William de Keith, Great Marischal of Scotland, who got with her the lands of Touch Fraser and others, including Cowie. The second son, Sir William Fraser of Cowie and Durris, was born about 1318. In 1341 he received a charter of the thanages of Durris, Cowie, and of Eskyltuh, Essintuly in Kincardineshire, and in 1342, by royal precept, an assignation of £13 6s 8d from the rents of the lands of Avauch. He assisted in the invasion of England by David II. in 1346, and was killed at the battle of Durham. To him succeeded his elder son, Sir Alexander, who became the first of Philorth. He married, in 1375, Joanna, second daughter of William, Earl of Ross; and on 4th June, 1375, he and his wife received a charter from Sir Walter de Leslie, dominus de Ross, of all the lands of Philorth. On 19th May, 1376, Sir Alexander granted his brother John a charter of the lands of Auchinschogill, Loncardy, Plady, and Delgady, in the Deveron valley, on payment of a pair of gilt spurs on each feast of Pentecost, payable at Philorth; and on 31st July, 1385, Sir Alexander gave him a letter of obligation to the effect that if he was disturbed by any of his (Sir Alexander's) heirs, by lawful proceeding, in the possesion of the lands mentioned, he should have the whole barony of Durris in lieu of them. Sir Alexander was Sheriff of Aberdeen in 1369, and probably continued to hold the office till his death—certainly until 1399. He was present at the battle of Otterburn, and died in or shortly before 1411.

Sir William Fraser, the second of Philorth, had charters in 1403 of Over and Nether Pittullie, Pitsligach, Culburty, and others within the barony of Aberdour, on his father's resignation, with reservation of liferent to himself and his wife. He sold lands in the barony of Kynedwart to Alexander, Lord of Forbes, in 1410; and in 1413 he sold the baronies of Cowie and Durris to William Hay, Lord of Errol and

Constable of Scotland. He died before 1441. His son, Sir Alexander Fraser, third of Philorth, soon after succeeding to the estates was engaged in litigation with the Hays of Ardendrecht and the Thorntons of that Ilk, to enforce his superiority over the lands of Auchinshogill, Plady, Delgattie, etc., which he inherited from his uncle, Sir John Fraser; and in this he was successful. He purchased the lands of Scatterty and Byth in the barony of Kinedwart in 1470. Dying in 1482, he was succeeded by his eldest son, Alexander (fourth of Philorth, 1482-6). He married Margaret, daughter of William, first Earl of Erroll, and had three sons, two of whom became in succession lairds of Philorth. The elder, Alexander (fifth of Philorth, 1486-1500), was adjudged to be of weak mind and incapable of managing his affairs; the next son, Sir William (sixth of Philorth, 1500-13), acquired in 1504 the lands of Faithlie (afterwards the site of Fraserburgh) and Tyrie. He married, about 1494, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Gilbert de Keith of Inverugie, by whom he had a son, Alexander (seventh of Philorth, 1513-69.)

On 4th December, 1542, the latter received from King James V. a charter of the fishings on the foreshores of Cairnbulg, Faithlie, Pitcairlie, and Cowburty; and on 2nd November, 1546, he received a Crown charter, setting forth that he had built a harbour of refuge for ships at Faithlie, and for this public service rendered, the town of Faithlie was erected into a free burgh of barony, with all the usual privileges to its burgesses, etc. This Alexander Fraser purchased a great many lands during his lifetime, including the New Muircroft of Kirkton, Tyrie, in 1549, together with the superiorities of Ardlaw and Bodichail, which lands his ancestor, Sir William Fraser, had sold in 1418. The lands were erected into a free barony of New Muircroft. By charter of 4th August, 1553, the Queen confirmed his excambion of part of the lands of Coburty, with John Forbes of Pitsligo for those of Pittalochy, and the same date confirmed to him the lands of Meikle Creychtie, purchased from John Crawford of Feddemat. In 1560 Alexander Fraser of Philorth bought from William Hay of Urie the lands of Tulykeraw, Blairmormond, and Park of Creichmond; and in 1568 he bought from William Cuming of Inverallochy the sunny halves of Kindrocht and Denend, in the parish of Rathen. Apparently, the only incident of importance in his life, apart from his dealings in landed property, is the one thus recorded—

"In 1530 he had the misfortune to kill one David Scott in an affray in Aberdeen, for which crime he was ordered by the Justiciary Court to pay ten pounds Scots to the nearest relations of the defunct, and to provide masses for the space of one year for the repose of his soul; and further, to make a pilgrimage to the shrine of St John at Amiens. In consequence of undertaking this expedition he made his will, which shows his affairs to have been in a satisfactory condition. He also got a royal letter of protection for his estates whilst he was abroad."

(To be continued.)

Johnsoniana.

The erection of a bronze statue of Boswell in Lichfield during September, 1908 (the gift of an Irishman, Mr Percy Fitzgerald), caused a good deal of palaver amongst home journalists, various venerable jests being hawked about, and "cauld kail hot ower again," not very palatable to a Scotsman. Yet, some of the resurrected stories were good enough for repetition, especially the one of the Scotch lady of quality, who, on asking Johnson at dinner if he would have some hotch-potch, was told that it was only fit food for a hog, when the lady sweetly replied to surly Sam, "Then let me help you to some of it, sir." Also the late Professor Masson's sketch of Johnson when in Aberdeen glowering up at a man employed in "hauglin' a hoose," and getting gratis a plentiful shower of droppings on his cocked hat and habiliment. Both anecdotes were set down as apocryphal, but everything in vilification of Scotland and the Scots was accepted as gospel truth.

I have also an anecdote which I heard an old shoemaker relate when I was a lad and a lounger in his shop. He was a native of St Cyrus, and from him I first heard the true story of George Beattie, author of "John o' Arnha," portions of which he used to repeat when at work. He was a most intelligent man, and I delighted to frequent his shop and listen to his yarns. The souter's story was to the effect that Johnson and Boswell, during the memorable Scottish tour of 1773, arrived one evening at Laurencekirk, and stayed at the village inn. Johnson had been in an evil temper all day, possibly aggravated by dismal weather, and he had severely snubbed Boswell, so that both parties were silent and sulky. Boswell had previously asked the innkeeper if there was any intelligent person in the district who could meet and converse with his illustrious friend, and so relieve the tedium of a dull evening. Mine host recommended the village schoolmaster, who was sent for, and accordingly came. He was ushered into the room where the great man and his jackal sat silently by the fire. Neither vouchsafed a word of welcome, but remained sullen and abstracted. The dominie looked earnestly at the corpulent doctor and then at the slim Embro' advocate. The stillness became insupportable, and at length the schoolmaster, who was a man of sagacity, and endowed with a good share of Scottish sarcasm, advanced to the table on which Boswell was leaning, and, throwing down a sixpence before Bozzy, exclaimed loudly, "Hae!" "Why?"—ejaculated Boz., rousing himself from his reverie—"what's this for?" "For the sight o' yer soo!" cried the dominie, and abruptly left the apartment. The souter said the anecdote was current in his neighbourhood when he was a boy, he having frequently heard the old people narrate it. Of course, Boswell durst not publish anything detrimental to his demigod; but the schoolmaster's independent spirit is worthy of remembrance.

Alba.

Rotten Holes, Aberdeen.

This name had originally been given to the high ground on the north side of the Spa Burn, but after being corrupted, its meaning had been forgotten and it had been transferred to the low ground on the south side. This burn still flows in its old course, but it is now covered up. It comes down Rodger's Walk, passes under the railway, comes out at a gap between two houses in Gilcomston Steps, and then crosses this street. The two parts of the name have the same meaning. Both signify little hill, and probably the last part is the older, and the first had been prefixed to it to explain it after its meaning had been lost. Rotten represents rothan, diminutive or roth, a hill. The simple form roth is seen in Rothmaise. An is a Gaelic termination, making the word to which it is added mean something small. It is in Scotch changed to ie, the Scotch diminutive termination. Thus rothan becomes rothie, meaning small hill, and the first part of the name Hill of Rothie explains the last. In Rothney "a" and "n" have been transposed and "a" has become "ey," also a diminutive termination. Holes represents coillean, the diminutive of coille, which in old Gaelic means a hill, but a wood in modern Gaelic. By inserting h after c coillean had become choillean, in which c is silent and h is rough. An is also a plural termination, and in Scotch it becomes s, and choillean had by mistake been supposed to be plural and an had become s. By loss of silent c choillean had become hoilles, which had been corrupted into holes. Then rothan had been prefixed, and it had been corrupted into rotten to change it into an English word to qualify holes.

JOHN MILNE.

Ancient Scottish Manners and Customs.

(Continued.)

25. First-fit.—The person who first enters the house on New Year's Day is so called. He is expected not to come empty-handed, which would be ominous of misfortunes. The first-fit generally carries with him a hot beverage, with some buns, or bread and cheese, to be eaten to it.

26. Coilus, Coil.—A king of the ancient Picts, from whom the district of Kyle is said to take its name. He lies buried, as tradition says, near the family seat of the Montgomeries of Coilsfield, where his burial-place is still shown.

27. The Fiery Cross.—A cross of wood seared at the end and extinguished in the blood of a killed goat, carried through a certain district from place to place, by foot messengers relieving each other, to order all men from 15 to 60 immediately to repair in arms to an appointed place of rendezvous.

28. Lhamdearg, or Bloody-hand.—The name of a spirit, in the array of an ancient warrior, with a bloody hand, who is said to haunt the forest of Glenmore in the North Highlands.

29. Borderer.—The warlike inhabitants upon the borders of England and Scotland, who lived in constant feud with the neighbours on the other side, making frequent and reciprocal inroads upon each other's territories.

30. Norham Castle.—Formerly of great extent and importance, now in ruins; has a romantic situation on a steep bank, which overhangs the river Tweed on the southern side.

31. Crichton Castle.—A large, ruinous, but formerly magnificent, castle on the banks of the Tyne, about seven miles from Edinburgh (sic). The dungeon-vault in it bears the name of Massymore.

32. Shadow.—Losing one's shadow arrives to such as are studying the art of necromancy. When a class of students have made a certain progress in their mystic studies, they are obliged to run through a subterraneous hall, where the devil literally catches the hindmost in the race, unless he crosses the hall so speedily that the arch enemy can only apprehend his shadow. In the latter case, the person of the sage never after throws any shade; and those who have thus lost their shadow always prove the best magicians.

33. Spirits.—The vulgar believe in an intermediate class of spirits residing in the air or in the waters, to whose agency they ascribe floods, storms, and the like phenomena. They are also supposed to interfere in the affairs of mortals, sometimes with a malevolent purpose and sometimes with milder views, instances of which are very frequent in popular tradition.

34. Breaking a Piece of Gold or Silver by Way of Troth-Plight.—An emblematical ceremony between lovers obliged to part. They break a gold or silver coin in two pieces, of which each wears one next to the heart, where it remains, until exchanged by them upon their reuniting, as a mark and symbol of a faithfully-preserved constancy, or else is challenged back, if this be broken.

35. Barghaist, Bahrgeist.—After the belief of the ancient Saxons, this was a spectre, usually the image of a departed person, who, either for wrong sustained, or through treasure hidden, or for other such cause, haunts the spot from time to time, becomes familiar to those who dwell there, takes an interest in their fate, occasionally for good, in other instances or times, for evil. The Bahrgeist is therefore sometimes regarded as the good genius, sometimes as the avenging fiend, attached to particular families and classes of men.

36. Bell the Cat.—There is an old fable that a cat having proved very destructive to the rats, a conclave of the latter was held to concert as to the best mode of protecting themselves from a repetition of Puss's inroads. After much discussion the younger rats agreed that

they would hang a bell round the cat's neck, and thus at all times have warning of her approach, and with this resolution the assembly appeared satisfied, when, unfortunately, an old rat asked who was to hang the bell round the cat's neck—who was to bell the cat?—Hence to bell the cat, means for an apparently weak party, to encounter a stronger party, either in argument or in action.

37. Cameronians.—A sect of the Presbyterians peculiarly strict and severe, who in Charles II.'s time and in James II.'s time refused to profit by the Toleration or Indulgence, as it is called, extended to others of that religion. They held conventicles in the open field, and being treated with great violence and cruelty by the Scottish Government, more than once took up arms during these reigns. They take their name from their leader, Richard Cameron.

38. Carbuncle.—At the west end of the Dwarfstone (Note 41) stands an exceedingly high mountain of a steep ascent, called the Wardhill of Hoy, near the top of which, in the months of May, June, and July, about midnight, is seen something that shines and sparkles admirably, and which is often seen a great way off. It has shone more brightly before than it does now; and though many have climbed up the hill and attempted to search for it, yet they find nothing. The vulgar talk of some enchanted carbuncle, but it is most probably nothing but some water sliding down the face of a smooth rock, which when the sun at such a time shines upon, the reflection causes that admirable splendour.

39. The Covenant consisted of a renunciation of Popery, by which the subscribers obliged themselves to resist religious innovations and to defend each other against all opposition whatsoever. It was composed of many invectives fitted to influence the minds of many men against their fellow-creatures, and was upheld and defended with the most determined fury. Several new regulations concerning public worship introduced by Charles I. had given rise to it.

40. The Drows or Trows, the legitimate successors to the northern duergar, and somewhat allied to the fairies, reside like them in the interior of green hills or caverns, and are most powerful at midnight. They are curious artificers in iron, as well as the precious metals, and are sometimes propitious to mortals, but more frequently capricious and malevolent. Among the common people of Shetland their existence still forms an article of universal belief. In the neighbouring isles of Faroe they are called Foddenskeucaud or subterranean people; they are believed to inhabit those places which are polluted with the effusion of blood or the practice of any crying sin. They have a government which seems to be monarchical.

41. Dwarfie Stone.—There is in Hoy, one of the Orkney Islands, lying betwixt two hills a stone called the Dwarfie Stone, which is one entire rock, 36ft. long, 18ft. broad, 9ft. thick, hollowed within by the hands of some mason (for the prints of the irons are to be seen on it to this day) with a square hole of about 2ft. high for the entry, and a stone proportionable standing before it for a door. Within, at one end, is a bed, excellently cut out of the stone, wherein two men can lie together at their full length; at the other end is a couch, and in the middle a hearth for a fire, with a hole cut above for a chimney. It stands in a desolate, melancholy place, more than a mile from any inhabited house, and all the ground about it is nothing but high heath or heather. It is thought to have been the residence of some melancholy hermit, and is looked on with curiosity by strangers, and with awe by the natives. It is said to have been framed by Trolld, a dwarf, famous in the northern Sagas, for his own favourite residence, who may still sometimes be seen sitting near it.

42. The Garland is an ancient coronet composed of ribbons by those who take an interest in a whaling vessel or her crew: it is always displayed from the rigging, and preserved with great care during the voyage.

43. Gillies—The different persons belonging to the train or suite of a Highland chieftain. They were: the henchman or hanchman, or right-hand man, to wait upon his person at table, etc.; the bhaird, bard or poet; the bladier or blaidier, the orator or speaker, upon visits to the great folks, or master of the ceremonies; the gilliemore or armour-bearer, to carry his sword, target, and gun; gillie casflue, he who carries him on his back through sikes and brooks; gillie comstraine, he that leads his horse by the bridle in steep or difficult paths; gillie trusharnish, he that carries his knapsack; gillie whitefoots, men or boys to beat the bushes on a hunting party; the piper, the piper's man, etc.

44. A Leaden Heart.—It is—or was lately—the custom in the isles of Shetland, when any person fell into a decline of health without any apparent cause, that a heart of lead, prepared by casting molten lead in water, under many ceremonies of a superstitious kind, as invocation of spirits and of the elements, etc., was hung round the neck of the patient, the malady being imputed to a demon having stolen the heart from the body of the sufferer.

45. Lambmass Lads.—It was anciently a custom at St Olaw's Fair at Kirkwall (Orkneys) that the young people of the lower class, and of either sex, associated in pairs for the period of the fair, during which the couples were termed: Lambmass brother and sister.

46. Pentacle.—A piece of fine linen, folded with five corners, according to the five senses, and suitably inscribed with characters. This the magician extends towards the spirits which he evokes when they are stubborn and rebellious, and refuse to be conformable unto the ceremonies and rites of magic.

O. A. P.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1857.

10th January. At Old Aberdeen, Mrs Jean Stewart, relict of George Primerose, Esq., late of Raemoir, in her 74th year.

27th January. At Aberdeen, Francis Gordon, Esq. of Craig and Kincardine, aged 84.

25th January. At 52 Dee Street, John Whyte, Advocate.

25th January. At Aberdeen, Margaret, widow of the late William Farquharson, Esq. of Monaltrie, aged 83.

30th January. At Aberdour, Rev, George Gardiner, Minister of that parish.

2nd February. At Forfar, Margaret Robertson, wife of Alexander Smith, M.D., and daughter of the late Sheriff Robertson.

7th February. At Jerez de la Frontera, Peter Charles Gordon, of Wardhouse and Kildrummy, Esq.

17th February. At 52 Chapel Street, Aberdeen, Mrs Jessie Gordon, relict of Captain Alexander Boyd, 21st Regiment, aged 84.

21st February. At 74 Park Road, Aberdeen. Mr John Finlayson, aged 45, printer of the "Aberdeen Herald."

1st March. At Banff, William Duff, Esq. of Mayen, aged 68.

15th March. William Leslie of Warthill, Esq., in his 87th year.

15th March. At Staindrop Hall, County Durham, Robert Grant, Esq. of Tillyfour, Convener of Aberdeenshire, youngest son of the late Sir Archibald Grant, Bart. of Monymusk.

10th March. At 58 Woolmanhill, James Tough, the oldest pensioner in Aberdeen. . .

28th February. At St Catherine's Cottage, near Peterhead, John Moir, Esq., aged 82.

22nd March. At Manse of Newhills, Rev. James Allan, Minister of that Parish.

26th February. At Milton, Canada West, Dr James Cobban, aged 54. He was a native of Keig, and his funeral was attended by upwards of 1000 people.

2nd April. At Ainslie Place, Edinburgh, Dame Georgina Lamont, widow of Sir Alexander Keith of Dunnottar and Ravelston, Knight Marischal of Scotland.

4th April. At 1 Crown Terrace, Christina Jane Smith, widow of Rev. James Jeffrey, late Minister of Meldrum.

2nd April. At Allangowan, Bridge of Allan, Mrs Jane Garden, widow of James Blaikie, Esq. of Craigiebuckler, in her 63rd year.

13th April. At Inverury, Baillie Alexander Davidson, aged 70.

15th April. At his house, Golden Square, the Right Rev. William Skinner, D.D., Bishop of Aberdeen and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, in the 79th year of his age, 55th of ministry, and 41st of Episcopate.

19th April. At Huntly, Rev. John Taylor Keith, for many years Episcopal Clergyman at Cuminestone.

2nd May. At 2 Regent Quay, George Elsmie, aged 81.

8th May. At Strichen, John Gordon, Schoolmaster, aged 77.

20th May. At the Manse, Marykirk, Rev. Alexander C. Low, minister of that parish, in his 47th year.

18th May. At Albyn Place, Miss Catherine Bannerman, aged 70.

18th May. At 6 North Broadford, Elizabeth Simpson, relict of Thomas Elmsley of Pitmedden, aged 82.

5th June. At 8 Mary's Place, Edinburgh, Rev. George Hagar, late Episcopal Minister of Lonmay.

17th June. At the Free Church Manse, New Machar, Rev. George Moir.

19th June. At the Schoolhouse, Kemnay, Andrew Stevenson, for upwards of thirty years Schoolmaster of that parish.

23rd June. At Parkhill, Mrs Gordon of Pitlurg [Maria, daughter of Captain William Henry Nares, R.N., aged 31].

26th June. On his way to England, Lord Francis Arthur Gordon, son of the ninth Marquis of Huntly and late Lieutenant-Colonel of the first Life Guards, aged 49.

9th July. At Fochabers, Rev. William Robertson, Roman Catholic Clergyman, aged 28.

28th July. At his house, Gilcomston, James Reid of Belleville.

18th July. At Cromarty, Ann Blair, aged 80, widow of Rev. Alexander Allardyce, Minister of Forgue.

5th June. Killed by the mutineers at Jhansi, Central India, Francis David Gordon, aged 35, Captain 10th Regiment Madras Native Infantry, etc., eldest and last surviving son of Michael Francis Gordon, Esq. of Abergeldie.

13th August. At Strichen, John Woodman, Esq., Surgeon.

12th August. At Afforsk, Margaret Bartlet, wife of Captain Forbes Watt, aged 50.

20th August. At Willow Bank, Margaret Smith, wife of Alexander Gibb, C.E., aged 48.

20th August. At Manse of Cabrach, Rev. Harry Leith of Balcairn, Minister of Rothiemay, aged 58.

14th September. At Union Grove, Hope Innes, relict of Gavin Hadden, aged 78.

15th September. At Banff, in her 80th year, Miss Jane Grant of Eden.

16th October. At Crieff, Christina Brydie, relict of Rev. Gilbert Brown, Free Church New Byth.

29th October. At Rickarton, R. W. Rickart-Hepburn, Esq. of Rickarton.

13th November. At the Schoolhouse, Cushnie, Mr Andrew Malcolm, Parochial Schoolmaster, in his 64th year.

27th November. At Mayen House, John Gordon, Esq. of Avochie, aged 60.

20th November. At Mains of Glenbucket, Mrs Masson, relict of Rev. Samuel Masson, Minister of Corgarff, aged 83.

3rd December. At Ballater, William Sherriffs, Surgeon there.

Queries.

505. William Suther.—In reference to the notes on Bishop Suther and his family which recently appeared, no notice is taken of the bishop's son, William Suther, who was educated at Bellevue Academy and Glenalmond College. He afterwards held a commission in the old "Black Watch." What is his further history?

K.

506. John Wedderburn.—What is known of Wedderburn who married a daughter of the Earl of Airlie?

C. C.

507. Alexander Donald, Udny.—Early in the last century Alexander Donald, a native of Udny, entered the legal profession, but whether at Aberdeen or Edinburgh I have not been able to learn. Particulars regarding him and his career would be esteemed.

Buchan.

Answers.

276. Blankets, Couttie, Coutts.—Blankets means fold where cows were milked. It represents the two Gaelic words "Cuitan Bleoghainn." Cuitan, small fold, is the diminutive of cuit, fold. Bleoghainn, milking, is the genitive of bleoghann, milking. An being a diminutive termination should have become ie in Scotch, but an is also a plural termination, and it had by a mistake been changed to s, and cuitan had become cuits, now made kets. In bleoghainn, gh is sounded like y, and the word had been shortened to blan. Couttie is a modification of cuitan, small fold, with an normally changed to ie. Coutts also represents cuitan, small fold, but in it an had improperly been made s. Both these names had originally been given to persons from a village at a cattle fold when they went to other places.

John Milne.

454. Gordon Monument at Haddo House.—Through the courtesy of Mr C. G. Smith, factor to His Excellency the Earl of Aberdeen, I am enabled to furnish the inscription on the Waterloo obelisk at Haddo House:—

TO THE MEMORY OF
SIR ALEXANDER GORDON, K.C.B.,
COLONEL, GRENADIER GUARDS, AND AIDE-DE-CAMP TO THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON,
AFTER SERVING HIS COUNTRY WITH DISTINCTION,
HE WAS KILLED AT THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO, JUNE 18, 1815.
THIS MONUMENT WAS ERECTED BY HIS BROTHER GEORGE, 4th EARL OF ABERDEEN.

H.

493. St Peter's Churchyard or Cemetery.—In William Robbie's "Aberdeen: Its Traditions and History"—p. 25, "Antiquary" will find the following:—Much about the same time that the Trinity Friars were introduced here, Matthew Kyninmonde, the then Bishop of Aberdeen, about the year 1197, founded a Hospital on the high ground between the old and new towns. This benevolent institution was dedicated to St Peter, and the Bishop conveyed the surrounding lands, now called Spital for its support. The site of this Hospital is what we know as the oldest part of St Peter's Cemetery; and the burial vault of the family of Moir of Scotstown, a walled enclosure in the centre of the ground, occupies the site of the chapel that formed part of the hospital buildings. There can be little doubt that the name "Spital," which is probably only a contracted form of the word "hospital," is derived from this ancient foundation. Though the ground is now called St Peter's Cemetery, it was known for ages as the Spital Kirkyard.

W.

No. 117.—July 13, 1910.

The Frasers of Philorth.

(Continued.)

Alexander Fraser, the seventh of Philorth, was twice married—first, to Catharine, daughter of Patrick Barclay of Gartly; and, secondly, to Catherine, daughter of Gilbert Menzies of Findoun, Provost of Aberdeen, relict of Alexander Straton of that Ilk. He had six sons and three daughters—Alexander, married to Beatrice, daughter of Robert Keith, Master of Marischal; William of Techmuiry; Thomas of Strichen; Simon; John, Rector of the University of Paris; James of Skafterty; Christiana, married to William Crawfurd of Fedderat; Elizabeth, married to William Gordon, younger of Awdiale; and Margaret, married, first, to Alexander Cumyn of Inverallochy, and, secondly, to Alexander Annand of Octerellon. He was predeceased by his eldest son, and Philorth passed to his grandson (his eldest son's eldest son), Sir Alexander Fraser.

This Sir Alexander Fraser (the eighth laird), who succeeded to Philorth in 1569, was the founder of Fraserburgh. He built the town on the site of the newly-erected burgh of Faithly, which, by grant of novodamus inserted into a charter of all his lands which he had resigned for reinfeftment, was erected into a free port and burgh of barony on 9 April, 1588; and, further, on 7 July, 1592, he got another charter of all his lands and privileges granted in 1588, with the addition of Inverallochy, and a grant of novodamus creating Faithly a burgh of regality with a free port, to be called the burgh and port of Fraser. In 1543 he purchased the third part of Faithlie near Tyrie, and in the following year the shady halves of Kindrocht and Denend. He was knighted on the occasion of the baptism of Prince Henry on 30th August, 1594, and in 1596 was elected one of the Commissioners to Parliament for the county of Aberdeen. "During the latter years of his life his affairs became very embarrassed owing to over-expenditure on the new town of Fraserburgh, and such of his properties as were not settled on his eldest son were handed over to trustees to sell such parts as might be necessary for the payment of his debts, and to infeft his eldest grandson in the remainder. The lands thus sold in 1615 and 1616 were Inverallochy to Simon, Lord Lovat; Kindrocht, Denend, and a third part of Faithlie, with Easter Tyrie, to Thomas Fraser of Strichen; and Cairnbulg and Invernorth to Alexander Fraser of Durris and his son Robert, to whom they had been granted in pledge three years previously. This last sale was made under reservations as to resales with a penalty of £10,000 attached for any infringement."

Sir Alexander died in 1623, and was succeeded by his eldest son Alexander, whose life was uneventful, and who died about 1635-7. He had married Margaret Abernethy, daughter of George, seventh Lord Saltoun, and his eldest son, Alexander, not only became tenth of Philorth, but owing to the death of his cousin, the ninth Lord Saltoun, without issue, inherited that title, taking the oaths and his seat in the Scots Parliament in 1670. Prior to that date, he had taken an active part in the troubles of the time. "He subscribed the Solemn League and Covenant at Aberdeen in 1638; was a member of the General Assembly at Glasgow in 1639; and in the same year served in the army commanded by the Earl of Montrose, and led a contingent of 200 men against the Castles of Kellie and Gight. In 1643, he was chosen, together with the laird of Drum, as Commissioner for the county of Aberdeen, to attend the Convention of Estates at Edinburgh; in 1643 he had command of a regiment in the expedition into England to attempt the rescue of King Charles I. He advanced large sums of money to King Charles II., joining the royal standard himself, and serving at the battle of Worcester." After his accession to the peerage, however, "Lord Saltoun's life was one long series of litigations and troubles, mainly brought about by the ravages made on the Abernethy estates by the ninth Lord Saltoun. . . . Pittullie and Pittendrum were also engulfed in the whirlpool of debt, and finally, some years before his death, Lord Saltoun made over all his remaining possessions to his grandson, William, afterwards eleventh Lord Saltoun." He died in 1693.

The eleventh Lord Saltoun just referred to freed his estates in a great measure from debt, selling the estate of Memsie to John Fraser in 1699, and part of Rathen to Alexander and Margaret Crawford in 1690. He was a promoter of the Indian and African Company. He died in 1715. His second son, William, bought the estate of Balgownie in 1721, and changed its name to Fraserfield; and his third son, James, bought Lonmay in 1718.

Alexander, twelfth Lord Saltoun, who was a supporter of the Hanoverian Government, married Mary, daughter of George, first Earl of Aberdeen, and died in 1748.

Alexander, thirteenth Lord Saltoun, following the abolition of heritable jurisdictions, received £52 18s 4d as compensation for his right of regality over the burgh of Fraserburgh and lands of Faithlie. He died unmarried in October, 1751.

George, fourteenth Lord Saltoun, youngest brother of the preceding, took considerable interest in politics, and frequently voted at the elections of Representative Peers. He married Eleanor, daughter of John Gordon of Kinellar, and died in 1781.

Alexander, fifteenth Lord Saltoun, was admitted a member of the Faculty of Advocates in 1780, but did not practise. He lived chiefly at Philorth, and took a keen interest in local

affairs. A protest which he lodged in 1785 against the excessive posting charges levied shows how unfairly the same applied to different districts—"Having occasion last summer to post from London in a carriage of my own, which required four horses, I was uniformly charged on the English roads, and to the south of Queen's Ferry, no more than 1s 7d stg. per mile, made up of 9d for the shaft horses, 6d for the leaders, and 4d of King's duty: but when I came to Kinross, a demand was made of 1s 10d per mile, and the same at every stage all the way to Aberdeen. I refused to pay, and did not, in fact, pay more than 1s 7d till I reached Stonehaven, where the landlord would not furnish me with horses till I complied with his demand of 1s 10d per mile." He married Margery, daughter and heiress of Simon Fraser of Ness Castle, and they had a family of three sons and two daughters.

Alexander George Fraser, sixteenth Lord Saltoun, succeeded his father at the age of 8 on 13th September, 1793. He was educated at Eton, and was the first person who jumped into the Thames from the parapet of the centre arch of Windsor Bridge. Entering the army, he took part in the Peninsular War, being present at the retreat to and the battle of Corunna. He also participated in the unfortunate Walcheren Expedition, the Battle of Barossa, sieges of Cadiz, and San Sebastian, and battles of Quatre Bras and Waterloo—at the last of which he had, through excessive casualties, to assume command of his battalion. His escape was marvellous, for he had two horses shot under him, and a hole driven through his cap. His honours included G.C.H., K.C.B., and K.T. He was a musical enthusiast, and at the time of his death (18th August, 1853) was president of the Madrigal Society of London, and chairman of the Musical Union.

Alexander, seventeenth Lord Saltoun, was the eldest son of William Fraser, youngest brother of the preceding. He was a major in the 28th Regiment. He sat in the House of Lords as a Representative Peer for Scotland. Having a great taste for literature and genealogy, he wrote a very comprehensive history of the family of Fraser of Philorth. He died 1st February, 1886, having married in 1849 Charlotte, second daughter of Thomas Brown Evans of Dean House, Oxford, with issue three sons and four daughters.

Alexander William Frederick, eighteenth Lord Saltoun, and the present holder of the title, is a Representative Peer for Scotland.

Robert Gordon's Hospital.

Whilst numerous old writs and books stored in the repositories of a leading legal firm in Aberdeen were being lately overhauled, the oldest Minute Book of the transactions of the Governors and Patrons of Robert Gordon's Hospital was discovered. The volume, which is in excellent preservation, has now been handed over to its owners; and through the courtesy of Mr W. Mearns Cooper and his staff, we have been permitted to make the following extracts:—

Att Aberdeen the Seventeenth day of May One Thousand Seven Hundred and thirty one years In presence of the Governours and Patrons of the Hospitall and Mortification of the deceast Robert Gordon Lawfull Son to the Deceast Mr Arthur Gordon Advocate after named viz James Moorison Present Provost of Aberdeen, William Smith, William Chalmers, William Mowat and John Strachan Junior, Baillies, William Cruickshank Late Provost, John Midleton Junior Dean of Guild, William Cruickshank Junior Thesaurer, William Cruden Late Baillie, Thomas Fraser, Master of Hospitall, Patrick Forbes, Master of Kirk and Bridge Works, James Leg Master of Shore Work, George Forbes Late Thesaurer, John Strachan Senior Merchant, Robert Gellie Merchant, George Robertson Late Convener of the Treads all members of the town Council of the said Burgh Mr John Osborne and Mr John Bisset two of the Ministers of the Gospell of the said Burgh who exerce the Pastorall Chairge there in the old and new Churches.

After Prayer.

The said Day the Lord Provost Represented to the meeting that by the Deed of Mortification of the said deceast Robert Gordon this day Is appointed for the first Meeting of the Patrons and Governours and did produce the Principall deed of Mortification and the appendix by the said deceast Robert Gordon for the Uses Ends and purposes therin mentioned. Both which being Read therafter the haill Patrons and Governours Present took the oath de fideli Mentioned in the Deed of Mortificatione and therafter did unanimously Elect and Choise Mr James Udny, Advocat in Aberdeen, to be Clerk to Robert Gordon's Hospitall and Mortificatione and Patrons and Governours therof for this year and to have the Sallary of One Hundred merks Scots and a Guinea to his Servant who gave his oath de fideli.

Item, they unanimously appointed Magnus Milne Town's Sergent to be officer to the said Hospitall Patrons and Governours thereof and to have twentie pund Scots of yearly sallary.

Item, they Elected and Choised the Lord Provost, Provost Cruickshank, Baillie Smith, and Baillie Chalmers to be auditors of the whole accompts that concerne the Mortification and Hospitall untill the day of November next any two of them to be a Quorum and appointed the said Auditors or Quorum of them to meet with the Commissarie of Aberdeen and Commun with him anent the Confirmatione of Stock Belonging to the Mortification and to report their diligence to the Governours att their next meeting the twentie sixth instant and appointed the Clerk

to make up ane Inventarie of the defuncts Effects Both principall soumes and @ rents against that day and adjourned themselves to the said Twentie Sixth instant at three o'clock afternoon. . . . .

26th May, 1731.—William Cruden, Merchant in Aberdeen, was chosen and appointed Thesaurer at a salary of £15.

It was also resolved to build the Hospitell next spring and for that end the Auditors were ordained to send ships to Norway for such timber as may be necessary.

28 June, 1731.—Resolved that Francis Ross, wright, be sent along with Andrew Dyce, Shipmaster, for making choice of the proper wood and timber to be brought from Norway—the remuneration to be at the rate of 20s Scots per day. Plan of the Hospitall by Mr Adams, Architect, was considered and Provost Cruickshank was directed to confer with Mr Adams anent same when he goes to Edinburgh to the Burrows.

2nd September, 1731.—Provost Cruickshank, appointed overseer for the building of the Hospital and garden dykes, and to agree with workmen and furnish materials, and for his pains to get £100 sterling.

17th December, 1731.—Plan of Hospital finally agreed upon.

17th March, 1732.—The following debtors to be written "more Pressing than formerly" My Lord Arbuthnot, Sir James Dunbar, James Erskin, John Innes of Tillyfour, William Burnet of Cregie, John Arbuthnot of Fourdoun, Thomas Forbes of Watertoun, and Alexander Thomson of Faichfeild.

13th June, 1733.—Agreed rather than lend more money on heritable security to purchase land from Sir William Seton of Pitmedden, equal to 24 chalders victual at twenty-three years purchase.

30th August, 1733.—Committee have communed at length with Sir John Paterson, it was resolved to purchase lands of Tolquhon at 23 years' purchase with a compliment to Sir John's Lady of a Gown above one hundred guineas. The sale fell through, however.

18th November, 1734.—Agreed to purchase lands of Dumbreck at 25 years' purchase, provided they cannot be got at less.

17th February, 1735.—Agreed to get trees from London for the Hospital garden.

3rd September, 1736.—Report submitted that an agreement had been arrived at for the purchase of the lands of ffinnan and Cookstoun for £42,000 Scots, plus sixty guineas for a gown to the Lady—Mrs Alexander Bannerman, wife of the seller.

[The Minute Book No. IV., belonging to Gordon's Hospital is still amissing. Were it restored, the series of minutes from the commencement—17th May, 1731—would be complete. There is little doubt the volume is lying in an Aberdeen law office, and as it is of much consequence to have it restored, it is hoped that a thorough search will be instituted.—Ed.]

The First Aberdeen Newspaper.

As explained by Kennedy ("Annals of Aberdeen," II., 193), Mr James Chalmers, son of Mr James Chalmers, Professor of Divinity in Marischal College, "was the first publisher in the north of the frith of Forth of a weekly newspaper, or indeed of any periodical work; and the origin of it was the account which he printed of the battle of Culloden, in the month of April, 1746. At this time, however [Mr Chalmers], having occasion to be employed as an assistant commissary to the royal army, and being detained for some time in the north, in settling some official matters, the newspaper was not established till January, 1748, when it was published under the title of the 'Aberdeen Journal, or North British Magazine.' Since that time it has been continued weekly, at first on Monday, and, of late years, on Wednesday. After his death, which happened in the year 1764, the newspaper was conducted by his son. . . ."

It is manifest that Mr Chalmers possessed much energy, and he embraced all legitimate means to develop his printing business. He held the appointment of "printer to the town and university," the latter in early times carrying a salary as narrated in the following petition, presented about 1737, which Mr Anderson, University Librarian, has obligingly permitted to be copied—

Unto the Honoured George Skene of Skene, Esquire, Rector of the Marishall College and University of Aberdeen, And to the Dean of Faculty and Assessors of the Rectoral Court thereof, And Unto the Very Reverend Master John Osborn, Principal of the said University, and the Professors, Masters, and remanent Members of the same.

The Petition of James Chalmers, Printer in Aberdeen.

Humbly Sheweth,

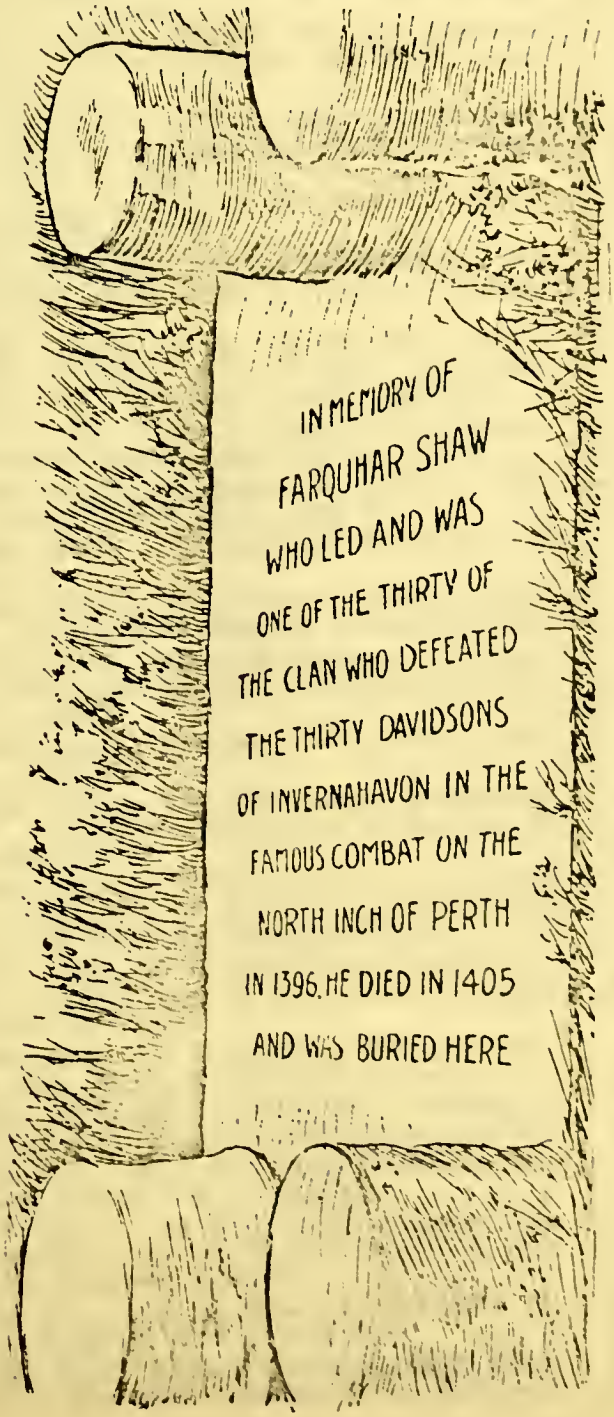
That, by a Contract or Agreement past betwixt your predecessors and the deceased John Forbes, Printer to your University, my Predecessor, there was a yearly Sallary of the sum of Twenty pound Scots money appointed to him as your Printer, which was collected yearly from the Students and punctually paid to him. And by the said Agreement he obliged himself to print the publick Theses of your University at the Rate of Ten Merks Scots for each sheet, the Students furnishing him with the paper, That as now I have succeeded him and his Heirs in the said office as your Printer. As the Encouraging men of my Profession tends greatly to the advancement of Learning. And as You and your Predecessors were always remarkable that way, So it is humbly hoped you will continue with me the same Sallary and Encouragement which you gave to the said John Forbes. And I shall endeavour always to serve you as faithfully and sufficiently as him or any other of my Predecessors.

May You therefore be pleased to consider the premises, and grant the Desire of this my Petition by allowing me the same Sallary of Twenty pound Scots yearly to be collected from the Students as formerly, and paid in yearly to the Regent, who teaches the Magis-

trand Class, or to the Procurator—along with the Chamber Rents, as you shall think most fitt, that I may receive the same from them. And I hereby oblige myself to print all your publick Theses at the rate of Ten Merks Scots per each sheet, You or the Students always furnishing me with paper. As also to print gratis all your Advertisements and other publick papers which anyway concern your University, You likeways furnishing me with paper, and providing the same do not exceed one sheet.

(Signed) Ja. Chalmers.

The Shaw Stone, Rothiemurchus.



"The kirkyard at Rothiemurchus contains the tomb of the Shaw who was captain of the Clan Chattan in the battle between the clans at the Inch of Perth. On the slab covering him stand five curious cylinder-shaped stones, one at each corner and one in the middle, which, tradition says, disappear and reappear with the ebb or flow of the fortunes of the family in possession of Rothiemurchus. While the Duke of Bedford rented the Doune, one of his footmen, an Englishman, carried off one of the stones for a frolic, causing great indignation among the people, not appeased by his being made to bring it back; and when, a few days after, the poor fellow was drowned in fording the Spey, no doubt was entertained that he had brought on his doom by his temerity in meddling with the Shaw's stone."—"Memoirs of a Highland Lady," by Mrs Smith of Baltiboys.

The lands of Rothiemurchus are said to have passed from the Comyns to the Shaws, and from the Shaws to the Grants under the following circumstances—"The Calart, a pretty wooded hill in Rothiemurchus, lies to the west of the beautiful loch of Pityoulish. It was in the pass, close to this loch, that Shaw Cor-fhia-a-cailuch, or Buck-tooth, waylaid and murdered the last of the Comyns in Badenoch. Tradition reports that he placed an old woman on the top of the Calart, apparently engaged in rocking the tow, but really to give him notice on which side of the loch the Comyns would advance. . . . The graves of the Comyns are still pointed out, in a hollow on the north side of the Calart. . . . Unvaried tradition bearetn that this Shaw was captain of the thirty clan Chattan in the memorable conflict with the thirty Clan Cays, on the Inch of Perth, in the year 1396. The Shaws continued to hold Rothiemurchus till they, in their turn, were expelled by the Grants of Muckerach. Young Dallas of Cantray having married the widow of Shaw of Rothiemurchus, took up his residence there. Young Shaw, the widow's son by her former husband, began to regard Dallas with a jealous eye. Returning one day from hunting, a favourite dog, having entered the smithy in passing, was struck by someone within. On inquiry, Shaw found that the aggressor was his stepfather, whom he waylaid and murdered. His mother, having collected the title-deeds of the estate, fled to Castle-Grant, and delivered over the property to the laird. He, unwilling to involve himself in trouble, surrendered the rights to his son Peter of Muckerach, who soon took means to avail himself of the gift, towards the close of the sixteenth century; and his descendants have kept quiet possession of the property till this day."—"Speyside," by John Longmuir, A.M., LL.D.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary.
1858.

7th January. At 2 Yeats Lane, Daniel Mearns, Shipmaster, aged 64.

11th January. At the Manse, Fettercairn, Rev. Alexander Whyte, A.M., Minister of the Parish.

9th January. At 41 Guestrow, Mr Charles Mitchell, late merchant, aged 82. Together with his two sisters, who died within the last six months, their united ages embrace the long period of 265 years.

21st January. At 86 Bon-Accord Street George Anderson, Merchant, late of Anderson and Thomson.

4th February. At Tullos, Margaret Mitchell, aged 72, widow of David Symon, Schoolmaster, Charleston of Nigg.

1st February. At Bandley, George Garden, farmer there, aged 72.

13th February. At Port-Elphinstone, Mr Alexander Davidson, Bank Agent in Inverury, aged 76.

20th February. At Kenilworth House, Bridge of Allan, Rev. Robert Blackwood, Minister of Union Free Church, Aberdeen.

6th March. At 12 Bon-Accord Square, Thomas Sutherland, manufacturer, aged 34.

13th March. At Huntly, Mrs Christie, relict of James Christie, M.D., aged 64.

10th March. At Portobello, Mrs Seton of Mounie.

19th March. Here, William Allardyce, Esq., Wine Merchant in Aberdeen, in his 65th year.

15th March. At 126 King Street, Aberdeen, Ann Burd, relict of Lieut. Alexander Davidson, R.N., aged 67.

15th March. At Hatton Castle, Garden Duff, Esq. of Hatton.

20th March. At Bath Lodge, Stonehaven, Rev. James Leslie, D.D., late of Fordoun, in his 95th year.

1st April. At Migvie House, Anna Hare Challoner, wife of Dr John Macrobin, Professor of Medicine, Marischal College.

12th April. At Manse of Durris, Adam Corbet, younger son of Rev. Robert Copland, Minister of Durris.

21st April. At Stonehaven, William Thomson, Esq., M.D., of Newhall and Quoscies.

25th April. At the Schoolhouse, Waterton of Echt, George Rankine, schoolmaster, aged 23.

9th May. Here, Helen Catto, relict of John Stuart Gordon, Esq. of Mostoun.

7th May. At East Bank, Fonthill, Jane Abernethy, wife of William Lumsden, merchant, Aberdeen, aged 46.

6th May. At Old Manse, Cothal Mills, Mr John Crombie, Senior, aged 86.

30th April. At the Parsonage of Deer, Anne, wife of Rev. Arthur Ranken, in her 54th year.

4th May. At 1 Golden Square, Johanna, relict of the Right Rev. William Skinner, Bishop of Aberdeen, in her 73rd year.

29th May. At Cults, George Barclay, builder, aged 73.

23rd May. At Peterhead, Robert Arbuthnot, Esq., some time of Mountpleasant, aged 74.

30th May. At Ballater, Charlotte Farquharson, wife of Rev. James Smith, schoolmaster, aged 58.

7th June. At Aberdeen, Alexander Paterson, A.M., many years Parochial Teacher at Bervie.

13th June. At Auchry House, Mrs Lumsden.

1st July. At the Manse, Alford, Mrs Helen Allan, widow of Rev. James Gillan, D.D., Minister of Speymouth, aged 87.

16th July. At 4 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Colonel John Gordon of Cluny.

13th July. At Trouville, Normandy, Robert William Kilgour, Esq. of Tulloch, aged 46.

26th July. At 75 Bon-Accord Street, Barbara Smith, relict of Alexander Irvine Ross, Land Surveyor at Mains of Tyrie, afterwards at Portsoy.

24th July. At Fochabers, Miss Elizabeth Stewart of Tanachy, in her 84th year.

26th May. At Lucknow, aged 19, Hugh Gordon, Ensign, H.M. 90 Light Infantry, eldest son of James Gordon of Manar.

11th August. At 33 Albyn Place, Aberdeen, aged 78, Mr William Walker, late H.E.I.C.S.

19th August. William Stephen, Esq. of North Kinmundy, in his 80th year.

2nd September. At Glack, Roderick Mackenzie, Esq. of Thornton, youngest surviving son of the late Roderick Mackenzie, Esq. of Glack, aged 43.

15th September. At Aberlour House, Annie Grant, wife of Alexander Macpherson, M.D., of Garbity, aged 64.

23rd September. At Eden House, James Cuninghame Grant Duff, Esq. of Eden, etc.

26th September. At the Free Church Manse, Meldrum, Margaret Wilson, wife of Rev. George Garioch.

4th October. At Peterhead, Dr Francis Thomson, in his 43rd year.

14th August. At Calcutta, Samuel, second surviving son of Alexander Wallace Chalmers, Governor of Prisons, Aberdeen.

21st October. At the Manse, Tullynessle, Rev James Paull, D.D., Minister of Tullynessle and Forbes, and one of H.M. Chaplains in Scotland, in his 77th year.

9th November. At Woodend, Bute, Robert Farquharson, Younger of Allargue.

12th October. At Calcutta, John Carny, M.D., third son of the late Provost Carny, Macduff, aged 25.

22nd December. At Aberdeen, aged 72, Rev. James Wilson, many years Schoolmaster of Strathdon.

Queries.

508. Wearing of Gowns by Provosts and Magistrates.—At what date did the practice commence of Provosts and magistrates wearing gowns? I desire particularly to know about the Provost and magistrates of Aberdeen in this respect.

A. B.

509. Farquharson Family of Haughton.—Wanted information as to the earlier pedigree of this family, particularly their connection with the property of Kellas. I am anxious to secure facts of a definite character.

B.

510. Patron Saint of Beggars.—Who is the patron saint of beggars?

D.

Answers.

1. Sillerton. (See Vol. I. p. 9.)—The spelling—Silverton—of this name on an old map of Aberdeen suggests that, like Silverford, Silver Cave, Silverfield, Silver Hill, and other Aberdeenshire names beginning with silver, it may be of Gaelic origin. Silver in these names represents the Gaelic word sealbhar, pronounced she-al-var, meaning rich in cattle, productive of much food for cattle, suitable for cattle. This name would have been appropriate for a farm comprehending the north half of Gordon's Hospital grounds with the pasture of the loch, which extended from Broadford Works to Crooked Lane, and from Loch Street to Rotten Holes, the old name for the lower part of Gilcomston Steps. What was latterly called The Loch was the mill-dam in Loch Street, but the ancient loch was a marsh, probably partly dry in summer. Spalding says the gulls nested in it in his time, the first half of the seventeenth century.

John Milne.

491. Rev. James Gordon, Huntly.—According to a birth brief (Spalding Club "Miscellany" V., 333), granted in 1649, Rev. James Gordon was the son of Alexander Gordon and his wife, Jannet Maitland, the parentage being declared "honorabill."

A. B.

492. Dyce Parish Church Ministers.—From Scott's "Fasti" and other sources, I am enabled to furnish the following list of readers and ministers since the Reformation:—

Thomas Myll, reader in 1567.

Robert Wood, reader from 1574, John Queheit (Whyte) being the minister here, and at Fintray, Skene, and Kinellar.

Donald Valcar (Walker) minister from at least 1597.

William Anderson, minister from 1605.

Thomas Meluill (? Milner), from before 1614.

William Cheyne, from 1645. He held the incumbency when Dyce was disjoined from Kinkell and formed into an independent parish by Act of Parliament in 1649.

Patrick Seton, from 1676.

Gilbert Ramsay, from 1682. Deposed in 1716 for having prayed for the Pretender during the Rebellion.

John Reid, from 1717.

Thomas Ragg, from 1727.

John King, from 1746.

Alexander Temple, from 1768.

James Hey, from 1770

William Wilson, from 1780.

Gordon Forbes, from 1822.

William Robinson Pirie, from 1830. He was afterwards Principal of Aberdeen University.

John Syme Kemp, from 1844.

The present incumbent is Rev. James Taylor Cox, who was ordained in 1888.

G.

No. 118.—July 20, 1910.

Aberdeen Bibliographies.

From an interesting review by Mr Kellas Johnstone, which appears in "Alma Mater" of 8th June, on "Musa Latina Aberdonensis," Vol. III. Poeta minores, edited by Mr William Keith Leask, M.A., and printed at the University Press for the New Spalding Club, 1910, we extract the following:—

. . . So long ago as the early years of the 17th century, the learned Thomas Dempster, of Aberdeen Grammar School and many Continental Universities, was so deeply impressed with the desirability of recording the names and works of his gifted fellow-countrymen that he wrote his "Historia Ecclesiastica Gentis Scotorum: Bologna," 1627, which, despite many myths, mysteries, and mistakes, is widely comprehensive and valuable. Following this first of Scottish bibliographies came the strange old Cavalier Sir Thomas Urquhart of Cromarty (King's Coll., 1622-26), who tells the story and enumerates the works of some of his contemporaries in his own eccentric style in "The discovery of a most excellent Jewel, more precious than diamonds enchased in gold, the like whereof was never seen in any age: found in the Kennel of Worcester streets the day after the fight . . . anno 1651, serving in this place to frontal a vindication of the honour of Scotland, etc."; 8o.; Lond., 1652. Next comes Dr George Mackenzie (Mar. Coll., 1664) with three imposing folio volumes of "The lives and characters of the most eminent writers of the Scots nation: with an abstract and catalogue of their works; their various editions; and the judgment of the learn'd concerning them." Edin., 1708-22. Mr James Maidment printed in 1833 from the Wodrow MS., "Catalogues of Scottish Writers," attributed to Sir John Sibbald, the historian of Fife, and Rev. Laurence Charters of Edinburgh, compiled early in the 18th Century—a notable feature of which is an "Account of the Learned Men and Writers in Aberdeen." Three professors during their official connection with our Universities prepared collections which embody much literary history with bibliographical information:—John Ker (prof. K.C. 1717-34), "Athenae Nostrae Aberdonenses"; Thomas Gordon (prof. K.C. 1733-97), "Collections on King's College," 2 vols.; and William Knight (prof. Mar. Coll. 1823-44), "Collections on Marischal College," 8 vols.—all of which still remain in MS. In 1833, Joseph Robertson (Mar. Coll. 1822-26; LL.D., Edin. 1864), the celebrated antiquary, projected a "Biographia Aberdonensis," of which there are three vols. in MS. in the University Library. A series of articles published anonymously in the "Aberdeen Herald" in 1858-9, under the title, "Aberdeen Bibliographer's Manual," were from the pen of the late Mr George Walker, bookseller, the author of "Aberdeen Awa'."

But it was left to the late Mr John Philip Edmond to make the first serious attempt to treat our local bibliography upon scientific principles, and no more earnest, painstaking, or skilful book-lover has ever undertaken the task. His "Aberdeen Printers—Edward Raban to James Nicol, 1620-1736," completed and published in 1886, is still the only bibliography of a Scottish city. It is very largely an academic work, for the great majority of the books and pamphlets described are connected with the Universities by authorship or subject, and the proud and coveted title of the early printers was "Academiae Typographus." Mr Edmond's example had a stirring effect upon the rising generation of Aberdonian writers, and as the pages of "Scottish Notes and Queries" were opened to their contributions, many items of bibliographical research were there first printed. Chief among them were our former editor, Mr John Malcolm Bulloch's (1887) "Bibliography of Aberdeen Periodicals and Newspapers," and Mr Robert Anderson's industriously compiled "Annual Bibliography of Aberdeen Authors" (1891 et seq.). Contemporaneously a wider effort had been begun by Mr Alexander Webster Robertson, chief librarian of the Aberdeen Public Library, whose "Hand-List of Bibliography of the Shires of Aberdeen, Banff, and Kincardine," containing about 7000 items, was published by the New Spalding Club in 1893. To this large collection, Mr Robertson added considerably during successive years up to 1901. No collector has ever attained a more extensive knowledge of our local literature than his, and it is gratifying to know that it will ere long be recognised, as his MSS., now in the custody of the New Spalding Club, will supply the great bulk of the first volume of the bibliography which is promised for early issue. A "Bibliography of Dr Arthur Johnston," contributed by his collateral relative, Col. William Johnston, to Vol. II. of the "Musa," leaves nothing to be desired. Mr John A. Fairley wrote an interesting "Bibliography of Peter Buchan," the Peterhead printer and balladist, for the transactions of the Buchan Field Club for 1902. The Quater-Centenary Volume of "Studies in the History and Development of the University," 1906, is distinctly enriched by Mr P. J. Anderson's "Collections towards a Bibliography of the Universities of Aberdeen," which is a model of the perfection of bibliographical description, and must remain a book of authoritative reference for all time. Up to the present it is the only purely academic bibliography yet published in the United Kingdom, and its importance and authority cannot be over-estimated. And now we welcome not only the additions to our knowledge of booklore which Mr Keith Leask's notes in the volume under review embody, but also his own accession to the ranks of bibliography, for when a writer, in the very heart of an essay on literary history, proceeds to unravel the perplexing book-lists of the 16th and 17th century Camerarii Aberdonenses, which confused the catalogues of

the British Museum, and leaves the question so clearly solved as he has done, he cannot fail to become an enthusiast. . . . .

Latin Versions of Scottish Songs.

Dr Alexander's rendering of "Roy's Wife o' Aldivalloch" appeared first in the "Scotsman" newspaper during the 'sixties of last century. I cut it out and placed it in a scrapbook for preservation. On referring to it recently there was no concealment of authorship, for this note was appended by Mr Alexander Russel, then editor:—"This excellent bit of scholarship and fun is by the Rev. Dr Lindsay Alexander." The doctor is buried in Inveresk Kirkyard, for when there on pilgrimage to the tomb of "Delta," I came unexpectedly upon that of the great Congregationalist, whom I frequently heard in Edinburgh, accompanying my friend, the late Mr A. Simpson.

Another clever translator of Scottish verse into Latin was the late Mr William T. Mercer, of Aberdonian lineage, who died in 1879. His book of poems, "Under the Peak," published in 1869, contains Latin versions of "Tam o' Shanter," "Bonnie Lesley," "The Epitaph on Willie Michie," and Logan's or Michael Bruce's paraphrase from Job, "Few are thy days," etc. "The Peak" was the lofty mountain, Adam's Peak, in Ceylon, in which colony Mr Mercer acted as Colonial Secretary for many years. When I was in Colombo roadstead in 1902 looking at catamarans and native boys diving for money, a number of passengers were about to be taken ashore, when one of the party objected, as he feared there would soon be a storm from the dark cloud on the horizon. Mr Henry Adamson, a Scottish engineer on board, asked where the fateful cloud was, and, on its being pointed out to him, he laughed immoderately, and replied, "Why, man, that is no cloud, but Adam's Peak, the highest mountain in the island, and, according to the Cingalese traditions, the Garden of Eden is somewhere at the base of it."

The late Alexander Leighton, of Dundee, editor and contributor to Wilson's "Tales of the Borders," and author of "Curious Storied Traditions of Scottish Life," and other works, also published a tiny volume of Latin translations of Burns's songs.

ALBA.

The Earls of Caithness.

Fortune has not hitherto smiled much upon the Earldom of Caithness; but perhaps the recent bequest of the late Miss Louisa Buchan, of Auchmacoy, Aberdeenshire, to the present Lord Caithness—landed property worth about three thousand pounds a year and a pleasant mansion—inaugurates a new era of things. The vicissitudes in the title of Caithness are among the most remarkable in the Peerage. In one hundred and thirteen years four collateral branches came to the succession, and the present Peer belongs to a collateral branch of the last of the four. Owing to the ruin of the elder branch through the folly of the sixth Lord Caithness, none of these four families had more estate than that which belonged to each separate branch. But for the malicious disposition and ill-temper of the ninth Earl, the family might have been fairly well off.

This Peer was an old recluse, living in a small house near Murkle, on the coast of Caithness. He disinherited his only daughter, who had married, against his wish, the second Earl Fife, whom he detested, and had intended leaving his property to his kinsman and successor in the title, Sinclair of Ratter. One day the latter called to see the old Earl, and, being kept waiting, became impatient, and made some sharp remarks concerning his chief's lack of courtesy, remarks which were carefully retailed to the Earl, who vowed he would be avenged. In his resentment, he altered his will, and made a namesake his heir. This was Sir John Sinclair, the sixth Baronet of Stevenson, in East Lothian, who is now represented by Sir Robert Sinclair-Lockhart. If Sir John and Lord Caithness were connected, it was in the thirty-fourth degree, but the irascible old Peer did not care, and settled everything upon him and his family.

The strangest experience the Caithness Earldom went through occurred after the death of the spendthrift Earl, the sixth, who contracted enormous debts. His chief creditor was Sir John Campbell of Glenorchy, who, after his death, married the widow, and got possession of all the Caithness estates, and was in 1667 created Earl of Caithness. But the heir ousted him, and succeeded as the seventh Earl, and Sir John Campbell was later created Earl of Breadalbane, his descendants to-day being the noble family seated at Taymouth Castle. The seventh Lord Caithness died in 1698, and the title has since gone, as stated, to five successive branches. The two last sprang from the same parent stock, but they were all very distantly connected.—"Modern Society."

Wardhouse.

Some facts showing the hardupness of John Gordon of Wardhouse (and III. of Law, who died 1740) have just turned up. On February 28, 1713, an Act was passed in favour of "John Gordon of Law, factor upon the estate of Wardhouse, authorising him to expend £200 Scots in repairing the mansion house of Wardhouse." (Mackenzie "Decreets," vol., 194.) On August 10, 1738, John Gordon of Wardhouse granted a bond to James Gordon of Badenscoth, who assigned it on June 21, 1760, to Richard Gordon of Craigmyle (in whose will it is mentioned)

J. M. B.

Gordon of Braco.

Sir Francis Gordon of Braco, our agent in Poland, is usually stated to have left no issue. This, however, is not the case. He had a daughter Loysa. On May 6, 1661, "Loysa Gordon, lawful daughter and child to the deceased Sir Francis Gordon [he died January, 1644] and Dame Anna Wigner [who was a Dantzig woman], her mother, with consent of Hendrie Slater, merchant, her spouse, granted a bond for 10,000 merks to Alexander Sandilands, merchant in Edinburgh." The bond was signed in London, and was registered in Edinburgh July 16, 1661 (Mackenzie Register of Deeds, vol. ii.).

J. M. B.

Drastic Resolution against Buchan Dogs.

At Old Deer, this seventh day of July, 1797, in presence of Robert Stevens, Crichie: William Fraser of Park, Alexander Russel of Aden, Alexander Fraser of Strichen, Alexander Harvey of Broadland, James Cumine of Kininmonth, John Gordon of Nethermuir, and John Turner of Turnerhall, Esquires, Eight of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Aberdeen, of which the said Robert Stevens, Esq., was chosen Preses: It being represented to the said Justices that several Mad Dogs had appeared, and Bit many Dogs in Buchan, the said Justices order all proprietors of dogs within the boundaries of Buchan to shut up their dogs until the seventh of August next, with certification that if any dogs shall be found within that time at liberty, these dogs shall not only be killed, but the proprietor of them shall be fined with the utmost severity of the law, and appoint this advertisement to be read from the latren of every place of worship in Buchan, at least two Sabbaths, and to be insert in the Aberdeen Journal for two following weeks, that none may pretend ignorance, and that the public may be upon their guard, and give every aid to the Justices on this necessary occasion; and all Constables are desired to see that this order be strictly attended to within their bounds, and a premium shall be given to all those who shall kill any Dogs going at large.

(Signed) ROBERT STEVENS, Pres.

Loch Kinnord.

A second edition of "Loch Kinnord," by the late Rev. J. G. Michie, of Dinnet, originally projected by the author himself, has now been issued by his literary executor and contains Mr Michie's alterations and additions and other new matter. The district which the book deals with is noted not only for its natural beauty, but for its historical and antiquarian attractions. The shores of Loch Kinnord and neighbourhood are rich in remains of early Celtic or Pictish civilisation, such as hill-forts, cairns, underground houses, circular enclosures and other stone constructions, and a full account is given of all these. The crannog, or artificial island, which dates from prehistoric times, and the prehistoric canoes and other relics found in the loch, are described and illustrated. The history of the Castle of Kinnord and the surrounding district is traced from the days of Malcolm Caumore to the end of the civil wars in the 17th century. Among miscellaneous papers, two appear for the first time—an account of the "Prehistoric Remains on the Hill of Mulloch," and the "Church of Tullich," with its splendid series of early Celtic sculptured stones. In the notes there is a full description of all the Upper Deeside sculptured stones older than 1100 A.D.

The editor, Mr Francis C. Diack, who rendered yeoman service in connection with the new edition of Mr Michie's "Deeside Tales," has contributed a few articles on points where fresh information has been forthcoming since the author wrote, such as the results of recent excavations at Kinnord, and the structure of the artificial islands.

The illustrations are a special feature, and should prove both attractive in themselves and useful in the explanation of the text. The frontispiece, from a drawing by Mr Alec Fraser, Aberdeen, is in colour, and there are 11 full-page plates in half-tone, as well as 22 other illustrations.

The Making of Sailors.

The "Newcastle Weekly Chronicle" recently drew attention to the altered character of British seamen arising from the supersession of sailing ships by steamers. The seamen of the present time are not sailors in the opinion of many, but merely machinists, although a knowledge of seamanship is required even to navigate steamers. It says much for the ship Port Jackson, built at Aberdeen in 1892 by Messrs Alexander Hall and Company, that for several years past it has made regular passages from London to Australia and back with some forty shipmen on board, solely for the purpose of being trained for the mercantile marine service. So great has been the demand for officers trained in this way that a second vessel, named the Medway, has been employed primarily to make long voyages for the turning out of "real sailors."

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1859.

14th January. At Brae of Coynach, John, fourth son of the late James Ferguson, Esq. of Kinmundy and Coynach, in his 62nd year.

22nd January. At Morningside, Aberdeen, George Keith, Esq., late of the Hudson's Bay Company, aged 79.

27th January. At Pitcaple Castle, Hugh Lumsden, Esq. of Pitcaple [thirty-one years Sheriff of Sutherlandshire, aged 75].

31st January. At 19 Rosemount Place, Rev. Hugh Mackenzie, of the Gaelic Church, in his 72nd year.

8th February. At 16 Union Terrace, Aberdeen, James Ross, Esq., S.S.C., late of Mansfield Place, Edinburgh.

5th February. At 43 Dee Street, Helen Urquhart, widow of Baillie Harper [and daughter of Rev. Alexander Urquhart, minister of the parish of Tough], aged 67.

19th February. At Freefield, General Sir Alexander Leith, K.C.B., of Freefield and Glenkindie, in his 85th year.

13th February. At 23 Cadogan Place, London, the Hon. Lady Duff, widow of General the Hon. Sir Alexander Duff, G.C.H., and mother of the Earl of Fife.

3rd March. At the Parsonage, Monymusk, Isabella Barron, the beloved wife of Rev. W. Walker.

16th March. At Leven Bank, Edinburgh, at the house of his brother-in-law, Rev. Dr Bryce, Rev. Robert Meiklejohn, minister of Strathdon, aged 58.

25th March. At 7 Golden Square, Aberdeen, Katherine Ann Laing, eldest daughter of the late Rev. Dr William Laing, Peterhead, in her 84th year.

1st April. At 11 Holburn Street, Mr Robert Donald, shipowner, late Brush Manufacturer, aged 60.

1st April. In her 87th year, Mrs June Crombie, relict of Rev. Alexander Crombie, LL.D. F.R.S., late of Phesdo, etc.

24th April. At Westburn, David Chalmers, printer [and proprietor, "Aberdeen Journal"], in his 81st year.

25th April. At Belnaboth, Glenbucket, Mrs Jane Murdoch, in her 96th year—the oldest person in the parish.

8th May. At 7 Bon-Accord Street, John Campbell, surgeon.

29th April. At 16 Skene Street West, Alexander Stephen, M.D., aged 25.

5th May. At Dunning Female School, Susannah Edmonston, fifth daughter of the late Mr Andrew Malcolm, Parochial Schoolmaster of Cushnie, aged 22.

14th May. At Glenalmond, John, third surviving son of Francis Farquharson of Finzean.

6th May. At Newrath, Wicklow, aged 41 Colonel J. A. Udny of Udny, Aide-de-Camp to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland

31st May. At 18 Carden Place, Ann Farquhar, widow of Rev. Alexander Farquhar, Minister of Pitsligo.

20th May. At Cullen, Mrs Ann Smith, relict of Commander Thomas Duncan, R.N., in her 84th year.

3rd June. At Holburn Cottage, Elspet Stewart, wife of Henry Ogg, Distiller.

8th June. At 91 Union Street, Jan Chalmers, relict of James Littlejohn, Architect in Aberdeen, in her 78th year.

7th June. At Westville, Albyn Place, Andrew Sandilands Fisher, Esq. of Murcar, late Captain 72nd Highlanders.

14th June. At the Schoolhouse, Newhills, Jane Ronald, widow of Rev. James Allan, Minister of Newhills.

15th June. At Ardlethen, Mr Thomas Garland, Senior, aged 96.

19th June. At Bridehaugh, Mortlach, Janet M'Donald, relict of John Davidson, Blacksmith, aged 104. She was a widow for 56 years.

18th June. At London, Archibald Maniel Ferguson, son of Rev. Fergus Ferguson, Aberdeen.

1st July. At 45 Victoria Street West, John Watt, Leather Merchant, aged 57.

26th June. At Cults, near Tomintoul, Mr Robert Cameron, Schoolmaster of Kirkmichael, in his 28th year.

12th July. At Dens, Mrs Arbuthnot of Dens [Susan, daughter of John Marshall, R.N.], aged 68.

14th July. At Glasgow, John Cowie, A.M., Parochial Schoolmaster of Oldmachar [author of "A Catechism of Music"].

16th July. At the Manse, Coull, Rev. James Leslie, aged 50.

28th June. At Llanelly, Wales, aged 104, William Kirkby. He was a Scotchman, and a gardener by trade. He was married last year being 103 on his wedding day. His widow is about 60.

14th August. Rev. James Greig, [16 years] minister of the parish of Chapel of Garioch [aged 48].

21st August. At Craigbank Cults, Peter Williamson, Esq., late Druggist, Aberdeen, [aged 48].

21st August. At 5 Clarendon Villas, Notting Hill, London, aged 24, Catherine Elizabeth Mary, wife of William Johnstone Fyffe, M.D., Surgeon, 5th Dragoon Guards, and only child of Mrs Sterritt Duff of Corsindae.

30th August. At Woodhill, near Aberdeen Sir James Grant, Bart. of Monymusk.

27th August. At the Manse, Ellon, Rev. William Brewster, Minister of that parish.

7th September. At Londonderry, Captain Ernest Leslie, last surviving son of the late William Leslie, Esq. of Coburty, Aberdeenshire, aged 80.

19th October. At 87 Bon-Accord Street, Barbara Cock, widow of John Coutts, Surgeon Fraserburgh.

17th October. At the Free Church Manse, Benholm, Mrs Janet Boyd, wife of Rev. James Glen.

30th October. At the Free Church Manse, Auchindoir, Mrs Nicoll, in her 33rd year.

8th November. Suddenly at 73 Bon-Accord Street, Mrs Low, widow of James Low, Esq., Advocate, Aberdeen.

15th November. At Inchmarlo Cottage, Mrs Davidson, senior, of Inchmarlo [Frances Mary Pirie], widow of Duncan Davidson, Esq. of Tillychetly and Inchmarlo, in her 74th year.

15th November. At Garvock Cottage, Laurencekirk, Mrs Jane Beattie, widow of George Sangster, Manufacturer, Aberdeen, in her 71st year.

7th December. At the Schoolhouse, Tough, Rev. Alexander Ingram, aged 74.

18th December. At Brotherton, in his 78th year, David Scott, Esq. of Brotherton.

26th December. At the Manse, Skene, Rev. George Mackenzie, Minister of that parish.

Queries.

511. St Peter's Churchyard or Cemetery.—I am obliged to "W." for the interesting particulars furnished by him in reply to query 498, in No. 116 (6th July). Could he explain the following reference in the MS. "Description of Old Aberdeen" (Advocates' Library, Edinburgh, and quoted by Mr Alexander M. Munro in his New Spalding Club's "Records of Old Aberdeen," II.), by Rev. James Gordon, parson of Rothiemay, who died 26th September, 1686?—"On leaving the college and going towards the new town traces of the ruins of the parochial church, formerly called St Mary at the Snows, may with some difficulty be seen, whose founder and origin are unknown. Going on the public road a little farther, a place is reached, where there was formerly a church sacred to Peter. That church was also called the Spital Church. It has now been removed, and of its founder nothing is known." Where was the site of this church of St Peter?

Antiquary.

512. Buchan of Auchmacoy.—At Gairtlie, on September 15, 1671, Alexander Buchan of Auchmacoy granted a bond for 1000 merks to Robert Gordon at the place of Gairtlie. It was registered at Edinburgh, August 25, 1673. Who was this Gordon?

J. M. Bulloch.

513. Forbes Parish Church.—To what saint was the old church of Forbes, near Alford, dedicated?

A. A.

514. Gordon Relatives Wanted.—Would some relative of William Gordon, advocate, Aberdeen, who died 4th April, 1856, aged 60; and of his brothers Lieutenant John Gordon, Bombay Artillery, who died August, 1809, aged 19; Dr Alexander Gordon, who died 2nd May, 1819, aged 33; and Dr George Gordon, Superintending Surgeon, Bombay Establishment, who died at Aberdeen, 4th May, 1832, aged 43, please communicate with the editor of this section?

Answers.

468. Charles Gordon Rose of Blelack.—By a slip of the pen "uncle" was written instead of "granduncle" in this reply which appeared in No. 111 (June 1).

M. R. R. M'G. G.

484. Thomas Leslie.—Thomas Leslie, of Berryden, referred to by "Alba," was the son of Alexander Leslie, of Berryden, who died at Aberdeen 25th July, 1799, in his 77th year. The property of Berryden is within the boundary of the city of Aberdeen, and it was for long in the possession of the family of Leslie.

R. G.

The following inscription from a table-stone in St Nicholas Churchyard, Aberdeen, may assist "Alba" in his investigations as to the forbears of Thomas Leslie, of Berryden:—

James Leslie, merchant and late baillie in Aberdeen, died March 1st, 1770, aged 82 years. Helen Innes, his spouse, died 9th July, 1782, aged 81 years. Also interred here Jean Fraser, spouse to Alexander Leslie, druggist in Aberdeen, who died 18th February, 1759, in the 23rd year of her age. Also the body of Alexander Leslie, Esq. of Berryden; died 25th July, 1799, aged 77.

M.

501. William Thom, the Inverury Poet.—Thom is buried in the Western Cemetery, Dundee, and over his grave is a monument with the following inscription:—

1857.
William Thom,
the Inverury Poet,
Born
at Aberdeen, December, 1788.
Died
at Dundee, 29th February, 1848.

———

This Monument
was Erected
by a number of the Friends
and Admirers of the Poet
over the Spot
where his Remains
are Interred.

I came upon the monument while attending a funeral in the cemetery nine years ago, and took a copy of the inscription.

In the chapters on "William Thom and His Times" in "Glimpses of Olden Days in Aberdeen," Mr William Buchanan says—Thom "died on the 29th February [1848], and his funeral took place on the 3rd March. He had the honour of a public funeral, the Town's and Guildry officers headed the cortège. His son Willie acted as chief mourner; and the hearse was followed by the Lord Provost and many of the principal inhabitants of Dundee. He was buried at the New Cemetery, Perth Road, and a neat little monument has been raised to his memory. It was got up by subscription, under the care of the Rev. George Gilfillan; and the same gentleman also raised a subscription for the benefit of Thom's wife and children, who, after a short stay in Dundee, returned to Inverurie, where the mother soon died, and the children—three girls—were brought up with their grandmother, and are still [1870] living in that quarter."

R. A.

Rev. George Gilfillan states that William Thom died in Dundee at half-past eleven on the forenoon of 28th February, 1848; whereas Thom's biographer (W. Skinner) says that the death took place at three in the afternoon of 29th February. The interment took place in the Western Cemetery, Dundee, on 3rd March. The monument erected by public subscription over the grave nine years later gives 29th February, and, as 1848 was a leap-year, presumably this is the correct date.

Alex. Smith.

[Mr J. Cooper sends a copy of the Thom inscription as given above.—Ed.].

No. 119.—July 27, 1910.

Aberdeen Universities Bibliography.

("S. N. and Q." 2, viii., 125; "A. J. N. and Q.," i., 3.)

When communicating to the first issue of "A. J. N. and Q." (4th March, 1908) an account of four previously undescribed Theses of the Aberdeen Colleges, I added the remark—"A large number of Aberdeen Theses printed in the century 1622-1722 are still untraced. Information as to the whereabouts of copies will be welcome."

Through the courtesy of Sir William Seton, Bart. of Pitmedden and Cushnie, I am able to describe yet another Thesis. Sir William is in possession of the dedication copies of the King's College Thesis of 1690 and the Marischal College Thesis of 1700, both of which were inscribed to his great-great-great-great-grandfather, Sir Alexander Seton of Pitmedden, a Senator of the College of Justice under the style of Lord Pitmedden, and created a baronet in 1683-84. Sir Alexander had been a student at Marischal College, where he graduated M.A. in 1654.

The Marischal College Thesis of 1700 is described, from a copy in the Aberdeen University Library, in my "Bibliography of the Universities of Aberdeen" (Edinburgh Bibliographical Society, 1907), p. 31. The dedication copy is interesting as being in the contemporary Aberdeen leather binding, similar to that on the dedication copy (at Slains Castle) of the 1706 King's College Thesis, of which a facsimile is given in the Edinburgh Bibliographical Society's volume.

The King's College Thesis of 1690 has peculiar interest. It is, with one exception (the dedication copy, printed on silk, of the Marischal College Thesis of 1673, inscribed to George, eighth Earl Marischal), the only example of an Aberdeen Thesis known to me printed in folio—the usual size being small quarto (8in. by 6½in.). The volume is bound in blue silk (now somewhat faded) elaborately ornamented with designs worked in gold and silver thread. The list of Candidati appearing on the title page is especially valuable as preserving the names of 66 alumni of King's College who do not appear in the extant records of the College. The exceptionally large number—66 (in 1691 there are only 29)—probably testifies to the popularity of the promoting regent, William Black.

The Thesis fills five folio leaves (Sig. A2, B2, C; pp. 1-10); but in the copy described it is preceded by eight, and succeeded by twelve blank leaves. The title, which is remarkable as incorporating both the Dedication and the list of Candidati, deserves quotation at length:—

"ILLUSTRISSIMO ac PERHONORIFICO DOMINO, / D. ALEXANDRO SETON / a PITMEDDEN, / EQUITI BARONETTO, Baroni de Orchardtown, Drumbreck, etc. / A CAROLO II. B. R. Senatoria, in suprema curia rerum tam Capi- / talium quam Forensium, dignitate ornato; inque illustribus saepe Reip. / muniis, ac summa semper cum prudentia & integritate versato. / Eximia in Deum pietate, in Principem fidelitate, in proximum charitate, / in Patriam amore, & probos omnes favore, fulgentissimo, Religio- / nis reformatae studio, eruditione omnigena prudentia sena- / toria, ac invicto, pro jure tuendo retinendoque, / animo, summe ac insigniter conspicuo. / Familiæ suæ periliustris ac inclytæ (proximis juxta probisque omnibus charissimæ, & nobis semper nostrisque / beneficentissimæ) gravem tam sanguinis quam bonorum jacturam, pro re Regia perpessa ac ini- / quis fortunæ procellis tantum non absorptæ, Instauratori prudentissimo: ejusdemque non / per vim, sed virtutem; nec per fraudem, sed frugalitatem: neque per æs / alienum / publicum aut privatum, sed per propriam prudentiam industriamque lau- / dabilem, Redintegratori æquissimo, ac Sustentatori strenuissimo. / Viro vere nobili, virtuti simillimo; ad summa quæque nato, aut in publico negotio Reipub. / aut in privato otio rei literariæ, sedulo inservienti; Philosophiae & Philosophorum Fau- / tori propensissimo, summo & ipsi Philosopho, de Musis Aberdonensibus, nostraque / hac Academia optime semper merito; Mæcenati nostro maxi- / mopere suspiciendo, ac summe honorando. / Theoremata hæc Philosophica, in perpetuum debiti cultus, ac devinctissime observantiæ testimoniæ. / D. D. C. Q. / GULIELMUS BLAK, PROMOTOR. & / CANDIDATI hi Laurea Magisteriali hac vice condecorandi. /

Adramus Mushet,	Gulielmus Leslie, major,
Alexander Fiffe,	Gulielmus Leslie, minor,
Alexander Fraser,	Gulielmus Leslie, mini,
Alexander Innes,	Gulielmus Simpson,
Alexander Mackgill,	Gulielmus Urquhart,
Alexander Mathewson,	Gulielmus Macbeth,
Alexander Morison,	Hugo Duff,
Alexander Oliphant,	Hugo Strachan,
Alexander Smith,	Jacobus Adamson,
Andreas Aberdeen,	Jacobus Arbuthnot,
Andreas Fordice,	Jacobus Gordon,
Andreas Gardne,	Jacobus Guthrie,
Archibaldus Dunbar,	Jacobus Ker,
Georgius Gordon,	Jacobus M'Kenzie,
Georgius Grub,	Jacobus Murray,
Georgius Hay,	Jacobus Spense,
Georgius Skene,	Jacobus Strachan,
Gulielmus Annand,	Jacobus Straton,
Gulielmus Bailie,	Jacobus Stewart,
Gulielmus Blak,	Jacobus White,
Gulielmus Cummin,	Ioannes Angus,
Gulielmus Denune,	Ioannes Barclay,
Gulielmus Fraser,	
Gulielmus Laing,	

Ioannes Brown,	Ioannes Ritchie,
Ioannes Cummin,	Patricius Cummin,
Ioannes Ferguson,	Patricius Leth,
Ioannes Forrester,	Robertus Farquhar,
Ioannes Hay,	Robertus Gordon,
Ioannes Lason,	Robertus Innes,
Ioannes Mackintosh,	Robertus Milne.
Ioannes Ogilvie major,	Robertus Seaton,
	Thomas Crevie,
Ioannes Ogilvie minor,	Thomas Gilbert,
	Thomas Keith.

Qui F. D. O. M. Philosophemata hæc, in Collegio Regio Aberdonensi, / publice Propugnabunt, ab aurora in vesperam diei [10.] Julii, 1690. / — Displicet insipiens novitas, & stulta vetustas, / Si vetus est, Verum diligo, sivè novum. / — Aberdeis, Excudebat Ioannes Forbesius, Urbis / & Universitatis Typographus, Anno Dom. 1690. /

Preserved with the volume is the holograph letter from Regent William Black, which accompanied it. The letter runs as follows:—

"My Lord

I have adventured to prefix yor. name to our Philosophick Theses, without advertising yor. Lop. with my designe, because I was affraid lest the meaneness of the present might have made it be rejected, whilest I was firmly resolved not to alter my intention, or to pitch upon any other Patron. For (not to mention the fame yor. Lop. ha's acquired by yor. knowledge in Philosophie, & all the Arts and Sciences; your kindness to all true Lovers of Learning; and that favour your Lop. ha's allwayes curied for our University, besides severall other such weightie considerationes) the many obligationes yor. Lop. and your Family have upon all occasiones put on my Relationes & my selfe, ar reasons sufficient to obleidg me to give some greater testimony of my gratitude, in a work of more worth, than this trifle of Theses, qch. (til I can have occasion to do that) I have presum'd humbly to dedicate to yor. Lop: I wold have sent a Copie of them sooner, but they behoved first to be debated and defended: & since that time I have been from day to day put off, by some Gentlemen here, who put me in hopes that they wer going South, and promised to present them to yor. Lop. The kindness and concern yor. Lop. has been pleased allwayes to testifie for such as have shrouded themselves under yor. protection and patronage, ha's emboldned me to make this adress, and gives me ground to hope for acceptance, or pardon for it, since it proceedes from

Your Lops.
most obleidged and
most obsequious Servt.

William Blak.

Kings College Abdn:
July ye 30
1690."

P. J. Anderson.

University Library,
Aberdeen.

Admiral Thomas Gordon of Cronstadt.

The career of this notable, who was a native of Aberdeen, is gradually being made clear. Some very interesting facts about him in 1707 were brought out by Mr James Grant in his lecture on the "Last of the Old Scots Navy," delivered before a meeting of the Northern Association of Literary and Scientific Societies at Banff, July 1. The new volume of the "Stuart Papers" also throws fresh light on the admiral between the time he left the Scots Navy and entered the service of Peter the Great. On April 8, 1717, Mar, writing to James III., says—"Ogilvie tells me of one Captain Gordon, a sea officer latly broke, who is come over from your friends. He was directed to go to Mar, who they believed to be about Dunkirk. Ogilvie met him, and advised him to go to Paris . . and this minute, as I am writing, he is come in to me. I have sent him to Dillon, and desired he may advise with Spane what is fit to be done with him." (p. 170.) Ogilvie says (April 9? p. 178) that he had lent the Marquis de Meziere's chaise to Gordon.

On April 9, 1717, Lewis Innes writes to Mar—"I have seen Captain Gordon, and agreed with him to come out privately next Tuesday to wait on Andrew (Queen Mary) in such a manner that it be not known." (p. 176.)

On April 13 Ogilvie says to Mar—"The gentleman that came to you lately, that came with my cousin, was recommended by Mr Cæsar to Mr Primrose by Macqueen (John Menzies) to them all, he being a bottle comrade of his, but Mr Primrose never saw him, only takes his character by report from them. I am not acquainted with him, only when I met him and my cousin, she took me aside and told me she admired what they sent him over for, to be a burden to Mr Hardie, for, in my opinion, said she, he is an empty, airy nobody. I conversed a little with him, and confess I was much of my cousin's mind. He called himself the famous Captain Gordon, and believed a frigate had been waiting for him with all things necessary, but when I told him I had no orders about him, he looked very simple, but after all, as our friends sent him, I thought proper to give you an item of him, which, perhaps, will oblige you to observe him more narrowly than perhaps you would have done, and you make use of him accordingly."

J. M. Bulloch.

William Meston.

I congratulate Mr R. Murdoch-Lawrance on his settling the correct date of the decease of John Burness, author of "Thrummy Cap" (See No. 106), and hope that his suggestion for the erection of a memorial stone may be acted upon and accomplished. "Thrummy Cap" was one of the earliest chap-books I had, and I

like its homely vigour yet. One of its couplets I heard at school, when a monitor rushed into the playground to redd a bicker between three boys, saying—

"Ane for ane ye may compare,
But twa for ane is unco sair."

That is local fame, at any rate, to be quoted so appositely. In my copy of the poem I have a manuscript note that "John Burness was lost in snowstorm in January, 1826," written 30 years ago, and it is somewhat singular that Burness's theme was an adventure during a snowstorm, which turned out fortunately for his hero, but so disastrously for himself on another occasion.

I wish that Mr Murdoch-Lawrance had, while overhauling the burial records of the Spital Cemetery, turned up that of the year 1745, and ascertained the date of the interment of William Meston, the Hudibrastic poet. I have a coarsely-printed edition of the poems, done at Aberdeen in 1802 by J. Burnett, bookseller, end of Broad Street, and in a prefatory memoir it is stated that Meston died in the spring of 1745, and was buried in the Spital burying-ground, and (copying the memoir) "his grave is undistinguished either by a stone or inscription, notwithstanding he had composed many ingenious epitaphs for others." There are no epitaphs in Burnett's edition, but long elegiac poems on the deaths of Charles XII. of Sweden and the Earl of Strathmore, killed at Sheriffmuir, 13th November, 1715.

Several of Struan Robertson's poems are wrongfully included in this edition; but I miss Meston's Macaronic poem on a diploma granted to William Sutherland, a physician, written partly in English varied with scholastic Latin—very droll and worthy of preservation. It will be found in Dobson's "Literary Frivolities," 1880. Burnett complacently states—"In this edition many mistakes have been rectified and many blunders corrected which had crept into the former publications, occasioned chiefly by the author's being at a distance from the press." Why, the book is a scandal to Aberdeen printing, it swarms with errors, and the punctuation is simply atrocious. Enough said.

ALBA.

Braemar Memorial to R. L. Stevenson.

It is highly creditable to the Braemar Mutual Improvement Association to have had erected a memorial tablet on the cottage in Castleton where Robert Louis Stevenson wrote his first and probably most famous novel, "Treasure Island." The tablet is of polished Rubislaw granite, and its raised panel bears the following inscription:—

HERE R. L. STEVENSON
SPENT THE SUMMER OF 1881.
AND WROTE "TREASURE ISLAND"—
HIS FIRST GREAT WORK.

Making a Highland Chief.

The Age of Chiefship is dead. Few men with Highland blood in their veins could regard with equanimity the death of the name of chief or the entire obliteration of the old traditions which the name conjures up, but there is no denying that to-day all that exists of a great reality of the past is the mere name, with nothing but a titular significance. That titular significance means much. It may carry with it the glories of a race; it may bring pride of a long descent; it represents to men's minds, as nothing else can, a phase in the life of a people, a period in their history of power and might, of affection and protection, of land and loyalty. Little wonder, then, that claims to be chief of a clan—mere title of honour though it may be—are pressed in our own day, if not as in the past with some hundreds of claymores on a Highland moor, yet with all the arguments that laws and systems can divulge. The old way had the advantage of being for the most part decisive and decided at once; the new way is not "the battle of a day," it may drag its slow length along in the mist of uncertainty for generations.

The chief of a Highland clan, or the chieftain of a sept, was never the creature of the law. If you will he was the creature of custom, put in his proud position by a tribal custom. The system which in Celtic life governed his election was Tanistry, a word which is credibly derived from tanaisteachd. To-day there is no official recognition of the chief of a clan except as to his "supporters" in his armorial bearings, and his official description is Chief of his name. The "supporters" to his shield are the sign of headship of family. Skene gave an accurate enough meaning to the word clan as we know it—"groups of kindred in a tribal system of government." The head of a tribe selected an ancestor from whom he was supposed to be descended. There was a partiality for selecting such an ancestor from the Church. For example, the selected ancestor of the Clan MacLennan is said to be St Finan, of the Clan Chattan, St Catan—to whom the Ardchattan Priory, near Taynuilt, was dedicated—and of the Clan MacLaurin, St Lawrence, who suffered martyrdom under Valerian in 261 A.D. And again when a clan might very well have adopted the name of a person there was a tendency to adopt a patronymic suggestive of the office of that person if such an office was a religious one. The Clan MacNab were of the race of Alpin, but there was a son of the chief who flourished in the reign of David I. who became Abbot of Glendochart, and the clan assumed the surname of Mac an Aba (the son of the Abbot). So, too, with the Macphersons. Gillicattan (second of that name), the chief, had two sons, Diarmid and Muirach (or Murdoch). Diarmid did not survive his father, and as he had no issue the chiefship went to the heir male (in accordance with what is generally asserted to be the law of succession in chiefship), namely, to Diarmid's brother Muireach in 1152 A.D.

The latter was "parson" of Kingussie, in Inverness-shire, and the Clan Macpherson came to be known, not so much by the surname of "Son of Muireach" as by the surname "Son of the Parson" (i.e., Mac a 'phearsain rather than MacMuirich). The name of Macpherson, MacNab, MacGregor, or any other Mac was not, as is generally supposed, the name of any particular person in the clan. It was the name of the clan itself. There was not necessarily any blood relationship in a clan. Men could come from one clan to join another and be adopted, assuming the clan name.

In theory, Tanistry originally placed the chiefship within the power and grasp of every member of the clan; but in fact the chief was elected from "the reigning family" in the clan. And the principle of an indefensible hereditary right to the title, resting in the individual, was of a later origin. The tanist or would-be successor to the chief was selected from the "geilfine" (that is, the relatives of the actual chief to the fifth degree), and was the ablest and most capable member of that body. He was selected during the lifetime of the chief. Skene quotes the qualities desirable in him. He should be "the most experienced, the most noble, the most wealthy, the wisest, the most learned, the most truly popular, the most powerful to oppose, the most steadfast to be sued for loss and to sue for profits." He should also be free from personal blemishes and deformities, and of fit age to lead his clan to battle. Illegitimacy was not a bar, and the issue of "handfast" marriages in Scotland were eligible to be chiefs, and even sometimes claimed under feudal law.

It must be recognised at once that originally the chief had no inherent right to the land of the tribe. He was given or he acquired sufficient to support his dignity. There was no suggestion of feudal law or feudal tenure to begin with. It was only under the influence of more modern ideas as to the ownership of land that chiefs claimed the right of bestowing the tribe land on their clansmen. The "tacksmen" who were thus given perpetual rights as to land within the tribal domain were no doubt members of the chief's "ceile," and were his council with whom he discussed matters of peace and war, and the general interests of the clan. Mackay was the last Highland chief who held his lands as allodial territory. It was not until 1500 A.D. that a feudal charter was thought necessary to secure its possession.

The vicissitudes of clan life in several cases disinherited a clan from the inheritance which was theirs by no law but that of "immemorial possession." Such a clan—for example, the Macphees—became a "broken clan," losing its independence, and obliged to rank in the following of others more powerful. The Macphees joined the Camerons. Others, like the fine old Clan MacRae, continued in occupancy of their lands as "kyndly tenants," i.e., paying a nominal rent, but their fighting strength—and in the case of the Clan MacRae it was at one time great—was brought into the following of the Mackenzies, with whom they suffered badly in the battles of the "Rebellions." Other tribes were comprehended under a generic appellation, like the Clan Chattan, this body including such as the MacBeans, the Shaws, the Gillieses, the MacGillivrays, the MacIntoshes, and the Macphersons. Feudalism was, in fact, incompatible with the clan system. The chief could very well be without an acre of land to his name. There are chiefs—undisputed chiefs—who own none of the old family estates. Lord Reay, the chief of the Clan Mackay, is an example. He has no male heir, and the chiefship will become extinct in the direct line. Again, the estates of the chief may be inherited without the name of chief. Logan cites the case of the Sutherlands. The House of Lords in 1771, "after researches and legal scrutinies of unexampled length," settled the Sutherland estates in favour of the Duchess-Countess (as she chose to be called), but, adds Logan, "Clanship does not permit the transmission of honours by the female line, hence the late countess, although known as 'the lady of the great man,' i.e., the Earl of Sutherland, could not be chief. William Sutherland of Killiphedder, who died in 1832 at a great age, and enjoyed a small annuity from her Grace, was accounted eldest male descendant of the old earls. John Campbell Sutherland of Fors, in the county of Caithness, is now considered the real chief."

The tenure of land by paternal inheritance or immemorial possession might be insecure. Most of the chiefs added to their security of possession by accepting charters from the Crown. But this acceptance did not mean to them any acknowledgment of the Crown's right to interfere with their rights and obligations as chiefs, nor with the clan system. Indeed, Macdonald of the Isles could make, and did make, a bargain with the King! The law never recognised the clan as a legal entity. It is true that we find Acts—notably two Acts at the end of the sixteenth century, and the acts after the Rebellions, when heritable jurisdiction was abolished—referring to the clans. Whatsoever it may have done in fact, the election of chief never in theory left the discretion of the members of the clan. The clan was governed by its own customs. What were these customs with the force of laws? All the clansmen showed obedience to the chief; in turn they received protection from him. He was venerated as the descendant of a common ancestor. The patronymic of the clan was the symbol of membership of it, and the male descendants of male members of the clan were members of it. The descendants of a female were not members of their mother's clan, but belonged to the clan or family of their father (vide "The Old Highlands," page 269), and such descendants were not in subjection to and did not acknowledge as their head or chief the head or chief of their mother's clan. The authority of a chief in this respect resembled the patria potestas of the Roman Law, which was limited to agnates (i.e., relations through males). The right of a clan to elect the chief was limited in practice by custom that the heir male should succeed. It did not always follow that the chief's son was

elected. The chief's brother or uncle might be elected in his stead. In 1715 Lord Lovat, just returned from France, was acknowledged by the Clan Fraser as their chief, and drew them away from the rebel army, to which the proprietor of the Fraser estates had endeavoured to attach them, and arrayed them on the Government side. But, so far as we know, there is no clear case where the clan ever forsook the principle of clan law, that the honour and representation should go to the heir male, and not to the heir of line. . . .

The clan system no longer exists. The Acts of the "Forty-five" gave it its death-blow, though for "peaceful pageantry, social enjoyment, and family traditions mention may still be made of clans and chiefs." The representative of the ancient line in many cases still lives on the land of his fathers—

> To live the father of his people,
> And die the noblest of his clan.

Other ancient lines have run their course, like the MacNabs and the Macquarries. Others assert their claims amid altered conditions. No man can be made a chief to-day. He may go to the "Lyon King" and establish that he is chief of his name. He will find it difficult to establish that right if the succession in his family has been otherwise than by heir male; and if his ancestors neglected or refused to record their "arms" in 1672, as they were ordered to do by Act of Parliament, he may lay the comforting unction to his soul that his "arms" are not necessarily, though they may be legally, bad!—By J. I. Macpherson, in "Glasgow Herald," 18th June.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary, 1860.

10th January. At Union Grove, Elizabeth Violette, wife of James F. Hadden, aged 38.

9th January. At Springbank Cottage, Robert Spring, late shipowner, in his 89th year.

7th January. At Mill of Ardlethen, John Garden of Millfield, in his 38th year.

2nd January. At Surgeonshall, Fettercairn, Jane, daughter of William Grieve, in her 22nd year. This girl, a wonder to many, never spoke, never could walk, and never put her hand to her mouth.

12th February. At Tarland, James Adams, A.M., Parochial Schoolmaster, in his 25th year.

24th February. At Elmbank, Eliza Deborah, wife of John Paton, Esq. of Grandhome.

5th March. At Aberdeen, James Brenner, Esq., M.D., Huntly.

8th March. At 1 Union Place, Dr Alexander M'Donald, R.A.

28th January. At Peria, Chola Estate, India, John A. F. Paull, second son of the late Rev. James Paull, D.D., Tullynessle, in his 31st year.

10th March. At Peterhead, aged 67, John Leask, the facile princeps of Harpooneers.

23rd March. At 7 Bon-Accord Square, Alexander Macdonald [of Aberdeen Granite Works].

5th April. At his house, Skene Square, John Brown, M.D., aged 35.

1st April. At Coull, Barbara Gordon, relict of Mr John Henderson, late Parochial Schoolmaster, aged 79.

21st April. At Roseachie Cottage, Aboyne, Catherine Ann Shinie, aged 73, daughter of the late Alexander Shinie, Soap Manufacturer, Aberdeen, and relict of George Hendry, Builder, Aberdeen.

20th April. At Macduff, John Rose, Merchant, aged 81; and five days later at Muirden of Dunlugas, Alexander Ross, aged 85, sons of the late John Rose, farmer, Dreadland, Gamrie.

28th April. At 31 Rutland Square, Edinburgh, in her 73rd year, Mrs Ann Taylor, relict of John Dingwall, Esq., of Rannieston and Arde, Aberdeenshire.

13th May. At 20 Bon-Accord Street, Aberdeen, of scarlet fever, Nathaniel Farquharson, aged 22, son of the late Rev. Dr Farquharson, of Alford.

10th May. At the Manse, Ordiquhill, Katherine S. F. Watson, wife of Rev. James Grant.

11th May. At Banff, William Scott, Esq., Shipowner, and some time Provost of the Burgh, aged 78.

17th May. At London, Matthew, eldest son of Richard Poole, M.D., Middlefield House, Aberdeen, aged 34.

31st May. At 35 Belmont Street, Aberdeen, Mary, second daughter of the late General Alexander Hay of Rannes, and relict of Major Mitchell of Ashgrove.

26th May. At Clerkhill, Peterhead, aged 88, William Volum, Esq.

12th June. At Banff, Mr John Colville, Solicitor, aged 49.

17th June. At Stonehaven, Mr John Longmuir, Feuar there, and father of Rev. Dr Longmuir, Aberdeen, aged 89.

6th June. At Gordon's Croft, Camalines, Fyvie, aged 50, James Gordon, author of "Minor Poems, Historical and Traditional, and Ballads chiefly relating to Fyvie and its neighbourhood."

4th July. At 127 King Street, Joseph Williamson, M.D., aged 50.

3rd July. At the Manse, Durris, Rev. Robert Copland, Minister of Durris, in his 81st year.

25th July. At 53 Schoolhill, William Maclaren, M.D.

5th August. At Kincardine O'Neil, Hercules Scott, LL.D., Professor of Moral Philosophy, King's College, aged 66.

19th August. At 11 Chanonry, Old Aberdeen, Charles George, Esq., Share Broker, aged 56.

5th September. At Chapel Yard, Falkland, Ann, daughter of the late Rev. Robert Ballingall, minister of Forglen, and sister of the late Professor Sir George Ballingall.

5th September. At St Mary's College, Blairs, the Very Rev. John Sharp.

14th October. At the Manse, Fraserburgh, Rev. John Storie, minister of that parish.

21st October. At Inverness, Mrs Jane Gordon Kilgour, relict of Robert William Kilgour of Tulloch.

29th October. At London, Mr Thomas Wright, shipowner, Aberdeen.

24th October. Suddenly, at Manse of Millbrex, Rev. Alexander Chapman, M.A., minister of Millbrex, in his 60th year.

16th November. At 13 Howe Street, Edinburgh, Janet Georgina, wife of Rev. James Mitchell, of Peterhead, and only daughter of James Skelton, Esq., Sheriff-Substitute of Aberdeenshire.

10th November. At Kintore, Abergeldie, Crathie, Charles Smith—better known by the name of "Royal Charley"—aged 64.

14th November. At Fairley House, Charlotte, wife of James Inglis, Esq., and daughter of the late James Gordon, Esq. of Littlefolla.

27th November. At Kinnettles, Mrs Angelica Dingwall Fordyce, relict of John Harvey, Esq. of Kinnettles, in her 81st year.

23rd December. At Kingcausie, John Irvine Boswell, Esq. of Balmuto and Kingcausie.

28th December. At Waterton, Alexander Pirie, in his 83rd year.

30th December. At Merchant Street, Peterhead, Robert Hutchison, Esq. of Cairngall, in his 76th year.

31st December. At Florence, Michael Francis Gordon, Esq. of Abergeldie, aged 68.

Queries.

515. John Humphrey of Comaleggie.—Who was Mr Humphrey, whom did he marry, and when did he die?

R. Duncan.

516. The Gordons of Croughly.—Who were the parents of General Gordon of Croughly, the father of the late Sir Charles Alexander Gordon, K.C.B., M.D.? Where is Croughly, and does it still belong to the Gordons?

M. H. M.

517. Robert Stewart, Provost of Banff in 1718.—In the note "Banff Church Bells" in No. 109 (May 18th), quoted from the "Banffshire Journal," it is stated that Provost Robert Stewart was descended from James Stewart, Earl of Buchan, and his wife Joanna Beaufort. Robert was a son of Provost Walter Stewart (1660-1703), but no reference is made to Walter's descent in any peerage work to which I have had access. A deduction of such descent or a reference where such can be found would oblige.

J. W.

Answers.

499. Walter Cochran, Town-Clerk Depute, Aberdeen.—According to a flat stone in St Nicholas Churchyard, Walter Cochran died 8th May, 1779, aged 75, and his wife Helen Udny, died 4th December, 1809, aged 92.

A. B.

"T. R." should consult "Mortifications under the charge of the Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of Aberdeen," printed by the direction of the Council by D. Chalmers and Company, Adelphi Court, Aberdeen, in 1849. On pp. 215-216 of that volume will be found brief particulars of Cochran's Mortification of 1000 merks Scots, to poor unmarried daughters of gentlemen or burgesses. My copy of the book bears the following inscription on the front fly leaf:—"To David Laing, Esq., with kind regards and remembrances from the Lord Provost.

"Sept. 1859."

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

500. Patron Saint of Keig.—The patron saint of Keig was Diaconianus, an unknown Scottish saint.

A. A.

The patron saint of this parish was Diaconus (latinised Diaconianus), confessor and martyr, whose feast was observed on 23rd December

R. R.

503. George Montgomery.—The register of baptism of St Paul's Episcopal Chapel, Aberdeen, published by the New Spalding Club in "Miscellany" II., shows that George Montgomery, "farmer at Clerk Seet, and Heliene Midleton, his spouse," had a son Thomas, baptised 30th April, 1753; a son Robert, baptised 19th March, 1755; and when at Damhead of Gilmuston (? Gilcomston), a daughter Margaret, baptised 1st August 1757; a son George, baptised 12th April, 1760; a son James, baptised 11th July, 1761; a son John, baptised 22nd May, 1764; a daughter Jean, baptised 11th August, 1772; and a son William, baptised 21st February, 1776.

B.

No. 120.—August 3, 1910.

The Moirs of Scotstown.

At the end of the second register of St Peter's Churchyard, Aberdeen, there is a finely drawn bird's-eye plan of the old Moir Mausoleum, which occupies a prominent position on the mound in the centre of the older portion of the graveyard. It is headed:—

PLAN OF SCOTSTOWN'S BURIAL PLACE IN ST PETER'S CHURCH.

(1) A dead born child of Scotstown, 1777.	Jean, Scotstown's 2nd daughter, 1731. Mary, his third daughter, 1735. Janet, eldest daughter, 1738
Mrs Jean Ramsay, 1751. Mrs Jean Innes, 1765.	(5) Mrs Gordon of Glastirum, 1811.
(2) Mrs Mackenzie, 1785.	Scotstown, 1732. Lady Scotstown, 1767.
Lady Scotstown, 1760. (11) Scotstown, 1789. (3) Lady Scotstown, 1819.	(6) Lady Scotstown, 1800. (7) Scotstown, 1824.
	(8) Alexander Moir, infant son of William Moir, Esq. of Park, 1826.
	William Moir of Scotstown, 1737.
Mrs Betty Chalmers, 1763. (4) Mrs Janet Chalmers, 1783.	(9) Lady Pitully, 1785. (10) Miss Lidderdale, 1786. (12) Lady Dudwick, 1805.

In order to identify the persons here mentioned, I have examined the first register, 13th April, 1769, to 30th December, 1797: and the second register, 5th January, 1793, to 31st July, 1831. The following in the result:—

(1) 1777. December 21. A dead child of George Moir of Scotstown, Esq.

(2) Mrs Mackenzie [I cannot identify this personage in the register].

(3) 1819. January 23. Mrs Margaret Cumine, 75 years, relict of George Moir of Scotstown. [She was the second wife of George Moir of Scotstown, who died 29th April, 1789. (Temple's "Thanage of Fermartyn," p. 646.) The name of George Moir's first wife, who apparently died in 1760, is not known to me.]

(4) 1783. December 29. Mrs Janet Chalmers intered in the Tomb.

(5) 1811. March 1. Mrs Isabel Gordon, 80 years, relict of James Gordon of Glasterum and mother of the late Mrs Margaret Moir.

(6) 1800. January 22. Mrs Moir of Scotstown. [Margaret Gordon, daughter of James Gordon of Leicheston, Morayshire.]

(7) 1824. June 26. Alexander Moir, Esq. of Scotstown, Advocate 1782, Sheriff Depute of Aberdeenshire from 1795 to 1822.

(8) 1826. February 4. Alexander Moir, 2 months, son of William Moir, Esq. of Park.

(9) 1785. March 26. Mrs Cummine of Pitully.

(10) 1786. Mrs Lidderdale. [I cannot identify this person in the register.]

(11) 1789. May 2. George Moir, Esq. of Scotstown intered in the Tomb. [He was the second son of Alexander Moir of Scotstown and his wife, Mary Chalmers (Temple's "Thanage of "Fermartyn," p. 646).]

(12) 1805. April 13. Mrs Marcy Guthrie, 87 years, relict of the late John Fullerton of Dudwick, Esq., in tomb.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

Gregor Willox.

It is to be feared that facts for compiling an accurate and full account of the life of Gregor Willox are now lost. The only printed notice that I can find respecting him is a brief one by James Mitchell, LL.D., Aberdeen, in his "Scotsman's Library" (1825), but I am not sure whether it is Mitchell's own, or merely an extract from an older print. Although I have failed to find them, I am of opinion that traditions respecting Willox are still afloat in many Highland districts. I am the more confirmed in this, as I can personally recollect several old people talking familiarly about him. Doubtless, from these people I could have obtained interesting particulars, but unfortunately the opportunity is now lost.

Willox appears to have been born in the vicinity of Corgarff, and he ultimately rented a farm near Tomintoul. Although unable to give the dates of his birth and death, I should say that he flourished during the eighteenth century. Certain it is that he lived at a period posterior to burning for witchcraft, but while popular belief in its baneful influence had yet a strong hold on the human mind. There can be no doubt that he was a man vastly ahead of his time. That he was a knave, in so far as he played upon the superstitious, is generally evident, but his form of knavery partook more of "the wisdom of the serpent" than of pure rascality. Indeed, his practices are capable of rational explanation, and his attempts to enshroud them with the supernatural were the outcome of a desire to gain enhanced prestige, as well as increased remuneration.

At the present day he would probably rank as a leading veterinary surgeon, if not an astute detective. That he was aware of possessing natural qualifications for these vocations is, I think, apparent; but at same time he saw that he could greatly improve his chance of success with the superstitious populace if he could get his operations ascribed to supernatural agency. In order to accomplish this, we find him posing as the possessor of what was known as "Kelpie's Bridle." How he accounted for its possession I do not know, but that he concocted a story that would be implicity believed there can be little doubt.

In popular superstition, the kelpie was held to be a real creature indeed. In the form of a horse he frequented fords and dangerous crossings, endeavouring to induce the incautious to mount on his back, with a view to gaining the other side, by which means they were invariably drowned. It is worthy of note that the places he was reputed to haunt were those of a dangerous description, where even yet loss of life is not unknown. If anyone succeeded in putting a bridle on his head, he afterwards became that person's faithful servant. Of this, Dr Jamieson, the Scotish lexicographer, says—

"Like some wild staig, I aft stravaig
And scamper on the wave;
Quha wi' a bit my mou' can fit,
May gar me be his slave.

"'To him I'll wirk baith morn and mirk,
Quhile he has work to do;
Gin tent he tak' I do nae shak'
His bridle frae my mou'."

Did not the Laird of Morphie succeed in so harnessing the kelpie, and make him draw immense loads of stones for building his house? And did not a maid servant, out of kindness, remove the bridle from kelpie's head, when he immediately vanished through the back wall of the stable exclaiming—

"Sair back and sair banes,
Carryin' the Laird o' Morphie's stanes"?

What more likely therefore than that Willox gave out that he had removed the bridle from an enthralled kelpie's head, and that as reward for his action supernatural powers had been conferred upon him? Be this as it may, we find that he speedily became a person of importance, and one to be held in dread by the evilly disposed. He broke spells and incantations, detected thieves and found stolen goods, removed the baneful influence of the evil eye, restored cows' milk, and even cured barrenness in women. The possession of the magic bridle was the tangible evidence of his powers, and to carry still further weight he donned a suit of scarlet. His name and fame spread far and wide, and not only in Aberdeenshire, but over most of the adjoining counties his services were sought after. Of course, these had to be paid for, and when called to a distance a conveyance had always to be sent for him, for those were not the days of railways. This arrangement had an advantage, for he was frequently able while on the journey to extract valuable information from the messenger.

A smart piece of detective work—indeed, one that would have done credit to Sherlock Holmes—may serve to show how Willox conducted his operations. The innkeeper at Spittal of Glenshee had suffered from a long series of petty thefts. All attempts to find the delinquent having failed, mine host at last sent for the renowned detective. In due course the functionary arrived, and for a time seemed to devote no attention to the matter in hand. Nevertheless we may be sure that by deft questions and investigation he was busily employed, and had ultimately come to the conclusion that the thief was connected with the establishment. At last he declared his intention of pointing out the thief, and with this end in view, issued somewhat peculiar instructions. First he had the barn cleared, and from the rafters suspended a pot that had been in daily use, to a height of about four feet from the floor. The farmyard cock was then captured and conveyed to the barn. Next all the windows of the edifice were closed. Into the barn he ordered the innkeeper to assemble the whole of his household and staff, taking care that none was omitted. These preparations being completed, Willox took the cock, and, placing him in the pot, put on the lid, thereupon making some mystical signs. He then closed the door, thus placing the interior of the building in total darkness. He then addressed the assemblage in

terms something like the following:—"As you all know, a series of thefts has been committed here, which it is now my intention to terminate by finding out the thief and having him punished. You are doubtless aware that I possess powers granted to few, and these you have just seen me exercise by enchanting the bird confined in that vessel. One by one you must place your hand on that pot, walking round it in a direction contrary to that taken by the sun, nor removing your hand until the circuit is completed, and as sure as the cock crew when Peter denied his Master, so will he again crow when the thief's hand touches the pot." The ordeal then began. One by one the assemblage walked round the pot in dread silence, but each and all completed the circuit without the clarion of chanticleer being heard. Willox expressed disappointment, and, muttering something about "another test," proceeded to open the door and windows, thus flooding the barn with light. He then ordered the people to hold up their hands. This they did, and the red-robed magician walked from top to bottom of the line, turned back, and, stopping before a certain individual, said—"You are the thief!" The man at once confessed, and promised to make restitution in order that worse evil might not befall him.

How did Willox locate the thief? He did so simply by playing upon the credulity of the people. He was well aware of their firm belief in the supernatural and in his own power, and knew that none had the slightest doubt but that the cock would crow when the thief's hand touched the pot. This Willox knew from the cramped position the bird was in to be in the last degree improbable, and he also suspected that the thief, in order to avoid detection, would walk round the pot without allowing his hand to touch it, which he could easily do in the darkness without being detected, and which, indeed, had been the sole purpose for the excluding of the light. Then, as the pot was in daily use, every one that touched it carried off part of the soot with which it was covered. Thus, when Willox put the people through the last part of the ceremony, he easily detected the thief from the fact that his hands were clean, while those of all the others were grimy—a simple but clever plan of detection!

That Willox also possessed a good deal of veterinary knowledge seems evident. Certain illnesses of cattle were held as due to the "evil eye," others to witchcraft, and no doubt he was able to diagnose most of the diseases, and to find means to administer the necessary remedies, the effects of which would, of course, be attributed to the harmless incantations and symbolic signs which he engaged in. On one occasion the cattle on a farm were seized with a mysterious ailment, in which they "dwined awa'" and died without any apparent cause. The worthy farmer attributed his misfortune to witchcraft, and Willox was summoned. The great man, after carefully examining the animals and farm buildings, addressed a number of questions to the farmer:—

"Your father died recently?"

"Yes."

"And you entered into possession on his death?"

"Yes."

"And these are the same cattle that were on the farm at the time of his death?"

"Yes."

"A bad case," said Willox, "but if you do as I tell you the evil can be got rid of. You must dispose of every hoof and horn at present on the farm. You need not expect to thrive if you fail to do so. Then you must clean your byres thoroughly, inside and out, and allow them to remain empty for a certain space. Buy other stock, give them a clean entry, and they will prosper where previously they pined." The farmer did as directed, and had no further loss.

In the zenith of his fame, the name of Willox was one to conjure with. He was the terror of evil-doers, and often the mere threat of enlisting his services was productive of good results. On one occasion, Mr Alexander Hay, town clerk of Nairn, had a considerable quantity of linen stolen from a bleaching-green. Shortly thereafter, Willox paid him a friendly visit, and one evening strolled with him from one end of the town to the other. The scarlet-robed figure attracted much attention, and soon rumour had circulated that he had come to lay hands upon the party that had purloined the town clerk's property. On the following night the whole of the clothes were quietly carried back!

That Willox must have amassed a good deal of money appears fairly certain, for his practice was extensive and widespread. What his charges were for such cases as here cited I do not know, but to anyone who consulted him with respect to barrenness his fee was one guinea.

I shall conclude with a humorous story as to the ultimate fate of "Kelpie's Bridle." On the death of Willox this article appears to have passed into the possession of a near female relative—probably a sister or daughter—named Meg Willox. This lady's nearest neighbour was a poor widow, whose chief support was a cow. On one occasion the two dames quarrelled, and in the heat of passion, "Meg" brought forth the magic talisman, and, shaking it in her neighbour's face, wrathfully exclaimed—"My leddy, ye'll rue this!" A day or two later, the widow's cow died. Some of the more benevolent subscribed sufficient money with which to enable her to purchase another cow, but this she refused, declaring she would never have another cow as long as Meg Willox was allowed to retain the magic bridle. Representations were made in the proper quarter, and a civic dignitary from the adjoining town called upon Meg, and, much against her will, forced her to deliver up to him the celebrated bridle. This is said to have occurred in Aberdeenshire, but in what parish and what finally became of the famous article I cannot say.

DAVID GREWAR, F.S.A. (Scot.).

Kilmeny Gordons.

"Kilmeny of the Orchard," by L. M. Montgomery, which Sir Isaac Pitman has just issued in this country, is a Boston-produced book, and deals with Prince Edward Island. The chief characters are a family called Gordon. James Gordon had emigrated from Scotland. He was a proud man, of whom people said he "had a grudge against the sun 'cause it rose and set without his say so." He had a son Thomas and a daughter Janet. Another daughter Margaret (by a second wife) married a Ronald Fraser, who subsequently turned out to have a wife. So the daughter that was born to her, and who was brought up by her people, bore the name of Kilmeny Gordon. Her grandfather also brought up an Italian foundling, who was called Neil Gordon. He fell in love with Kilmeny, but she was in love with a certain Eric Marshall, whom Neil tried to murder with an axe.

Improvements near Aberdeen.

The "Aberdeen Journal" of 3rd June, 1829, records as follows:—

We understand that the New Church of the parish of Nigg, in the county of Kincardine, and Presbytery of Aberdeen, is just finished, and will be opened for public worship on Sunday next, the 7th inst., when the Collection of the day will be made for the poor of the parish. This elegant and well-finished edifice is one of the most commodious places of worship we have seen, and reflects the highest credit on the liberality of the heritors. The same public spirited gentlemen have just procured an Act of Parliament for the erection of a Suspension Bridge across the river Dee, at the Craiglug, and for making a Turnpike Road from that place to join the public road to Stonehaven, a distance of nearly five miles. This work, which the heritors have become bound to execute at their own expense, is, we believe, to be commenced immediately; and when completed, will be one of the greatest improvements in this quarter, both in regard to utility and ornament.

In the following issue it is mentioned that all the cost of the bridge had not been subscribed; that the church had been duly opened; that it contained 1000 sittings, and that through the liberality of Convener Affleck "a very elegant and perfect model of a ship of war has been provided, and is hung from the roof of the church—an appropriate ornament—where so large a part of the population lead a seafaring life."

Glenfalloch Torrent.

AT THE UPPER HEAD OF LOCH LOMOND.
A RETROSPECT OF LANG SYNE.

Oh, beautiful linn!
Fascinating as sin,
How often I think of that hour long ago,
When I sat by the side
Of your musical tide,
And looked at the hills and Loch Lomond below.

Heart light as a feather,
I clomb the red heather,
Yet higher, still higher I wanted to win,
Aye lured up the ground
By the spirited sound
Of thy glittering waters, thou Circean linn.

Sure, some Naiad of yore
From the Grecian shore
Was screened from humanity's sight by thy foam,
Thus to lead me astray
Up the steep boggy brae,
Yet to vanish as soon as I got to her home.

The ptarmigan meek,
With a resonant shriek,
Went whirring away to the forest from man,
And the deer from its lair
With a timorous air,
Shyly peer'd for a-while at the pale artisan.

Yet stern was the scene,
Sublime yet serene,
For the sun shed its rays in a magical glow:
No sound save thine own
And the querulous moan
Of the wind 'mongst the pines in the valley below.

High, high overhead
Were the mountain peaks spread,
The vestal-white clouds glided o'er the blue sky:
Thy banks thick with brake,
And thy bourne, the broad lake,
Lay quivering in sheen from the sun's loving eye.

Now plashing o'er stones
In thy sweetest of tones,
Now pent by the rocks in an eddy ye flow:
Then freed from restraint
And the bank's earthy taint,
Away in a gallop ye gladsomely go.

When I thought of the town,
Of its dull smoky frown,
And the clamour of traffic's continuous din,
How I wish'd 'twas my lot
To abide near the spot
Of thy sylvan nativity, beautiful linn.

Yet in memory's scroll,
And enshrined in my soul,
Shall the time be inscribed till this frame's overthrow,
When I sat by the side
Of that crystalline tide,
And gazed at the hills and Loch Lomond below.

T. L. Work.

Essendon, April, 1907.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1861.

7th January. At 7 Mayfield Terrace, Edinburgh, Janet, widow of Harry Leith Lumsden, Esq. of Auchindoir.

18th January. At 27 Dee Street, Aberdeen, Christina Ogg, wife of Charles A. Mollyson.

21st January. At Constitution Street, Aberdeen, George Angus, Esq. of Tilliecorthie.

29th January. At 103 Union Street, in his 65th year, William Brown, Esq., M.A., Distributor of Stamps and Collector of Taxes for the counties of Aberdeen and Kincardine.

16th January. At U.P. Manse, Whitehill, New Deer, Mrs Lind, aged 65.

30th January. At Murtle, John Thurburn, Esq. of Murtle, in his 81st year.

27th January. At Beldorney Castle, Sarah West, relict of Major John Grant 3rd Royal Veteran Battalion, of Beldorney and Dawlish.

14th February. At 18 Carden Place, Aberdeen, Leslie Fraser, sixth daughter of the late Rev. Alexander Farquhar, minister of Pitsligo.

14th February. At Crown Court, Cheapside, London, William Lumsden, Esq., solicitor, Banff, in his 33rd year.

24th February. At 2 Caroline Place, Christian Lumsden, aged 71, wife of William Walker, treasurer of the Aberdeen Royal Infirmary.

18th February. At Springbank, Mannofield, James Milne, late land surveyor, aged 81.

26th February. At Bellfield, Banchory-Ternan, Francis Adams, M.A., LL.D., aged 64.

18th February. At Rothie House, Robert Leslie, Esq. of Rothie, in his 87th year.

1st March. At 69 Dee Street, in his 77th year, Rev. John Murray D.D., Minister of Free North Church.

1st March. At the Free Church Manse, Portobello, Rev. Alexander Philip, at one time parish Minister of Cruden, Aberdeenshire.

10th March. At Port-Elphinstone, Mr Joseph M'Gregor, Teacher, aged 43.

13th March. Here, Alexander Edward, late Solicitor, in his 66th year.

18th March. At Birkwood, Mrs Leslie, senior, in her 86th year.

21st March. At 33 Bon-Accord Terrace, Mrs Leslie, senior, of Warthill, aged 78.

29th March. At the Schoolhouse, Keig, Rev. Gordon Raeburn, A.M., Schoolmaster of that parish, aged 79.

2nd April. At Aberdeen, George Bannerman, Esq., Solicitor, Banff.

15th April. At his house, 181 Union Street Henry Andrew Dewar, Esq., M.D.

2nd May. At 25 Dee Street, Marion, wife of William Watson, Sheriff-Substitute.

1st May. At the Schoolhouse, Disblair, Catherine Boyne, wife of Mr R. M'Lennan, Schoolmaster there.

1st May. At Tonmakeist Toll Bar, Ballater, Charles Sandison, aged 102 years.

30th May. At North Burn Cottage, Inverurie, Rev. George Cruickshank, schoolmaster, in his 60th year.

4th June. At Culdrain, Major-General John Gordon, Royal Artillery.

13th June. At the Manse, Strachan, Rev. David Martin.

12th July. At the Manse, Rathven, Rev James Gardiner, aged 78.

5th August. At 128 Crown Street, John Paterson, Advocate.

10th August. At Rose Street, Aberdeen, aged 24, Lieut. John Chalmers, Assistant Com. for Punjaub, youngest son of Mr Chalmers, Governor of Aberdeen Prison.

12th August. At Murtle Cottage, Mr George Leslie, Shipowner, Aberdeen.

18th September. At Countesswells House, John Gordon, Esq. of Cairnbulg, in his 75th year.

30th September. At Seaton House, Elizabeth, wife of Lieutenant-General Lord James Hay.

25th September. At Aberdeen, Sir Thomas Blaikie of Kingseat.

5th October. At Meldrum, Beauchamp Colclough Urquhart, Esq. of Meldrum and Byth, aged 70.

21st October. At Aberdeen, Frances Helen Angus, wife of George Gordon M'Lean, M.D., late Professor of Oriental Languages, Marischal College.

11th October. At 12 Clarence Street, William Duthie, Esq. Shipowner, aged 72.

8th November. At Carron Lodge, Stonehaven, Jane Maria Ewart, wife of Charles Gordon Robertson, Advocate, Sheriff-Substitute of Kincardineshire.

14th November. At Drum Castle, Alexander Forbes Irvine, Esq. of Drum, in his 85th year.

17th November. At Glack, Christina Niven relict of Roderick Mackenzie, Esq. of Glack, in her 89th year.

13th November. At Bank of Scotland, Stonehaven, William Stewart of Curnaveron, for 46 years Sheriff-Clerk of Kincardineshire, aged 72.

30th November. At Forresterhill, Andrew Black of Forresterhill, in his 89th year.

29th November. At 1 Bruntsfield Terrace, Edinburgh, in his 83rd year, Colonel J. R. F. Udny of Udny and Dudwick, D.L. of Aberdeenshire.

5th December. At Letterfourie, Sir William Gordon, Bart. of Gordonstown and Letterfourie, aged 58. R.I.P.

17th December. At Cloisterseat, Udny, Mr Robert Temple, in his 89th year.

13th December. At New Deer, in her 87th year, Bathia Reid, sister of the late Chief Justice Reid, Montreal, and relict of Mr John Copland, Peterhead. For fifty-three years she practised midwifery, and brought into the world upwards of 3000 children.

30th December. At Fetteresso Castle, Robert Duff, Esq. of Fetteresso and Culter, in his 72nd year.

27th December. At Tullynessle, Rev. James Smith [A.M.] for 36 years schoolmaster of Tullynessle and Forbes [aged 63].

31st December. At 4 Windsor Street, Edinburgh, Andrew Fyfe, M.D., Professor of Chemistry in the University of Aberdeen.

Queries.

518. West Draikies.—Where is this estate situated, and what is its probable extent or rental? It was owned by Robert Sandilands, who died in 1774.

H.

519. Belleville.—A tombstone in St Nicholas Churchyard commemorates James Reid of Belleville and certain members of his family. Where is Belleville?

Antiquary.

520. John Edwards, Marnoch.—What is the date of the death of Rev. John Edwards, minister of Marnoch, whose settlement is said to have hastened the Disruption?

G. Wilson.

Answers.

9. "Hamewith."—It is matter of satisfaction that a second edition of this deservedly popular poetical work by Charles Murray has now been issued through Constable and Company (Limited). The book has an excellent introduction by Andrew Lang, and two illustrations by R. Douglas Strachan.

J.

506. John Wedderburn.—According to Burke's "Peerage," John Wedderburn, Esq of The Prospect, Jamaica, married, 30th April, 1823, Lady Helen, fourth and youngest daughter of Walter, 7th Earl of Airlie. Jervise ("Epitaphs" II. 2-3) gives several inscriptions to members of the Wedderburn family.

R. Smith.

507. Alexander Donald, Udny.—Alexander Donald, eldest son of William Donald, farmer at Coulichare, Udny, was M.A. of Marischal College, Aberdeen, 1815, and was admitted W.S. 1826. He was born in 1796, and died 11th April, 1846. He married Robina Mary, youngest daughter of Alexander Millar, Montrose, and had several sons and daughters.

W. J.

No. 121.—August 10, 1910.

Dr R. S. Mackenzie.

(See No. 115—June 29.)

The "Dictionary of National Biography" states that Robert Shelton Mackenzie, whom it designates a "miscellaneous writer," was born at Drews Court, Co. Limerick, on 22nd June, 1809. "About 1823 he acted for a short time as editor of a paper at Hanley, Staffordshire. After 1830 he went to London, and wrote for various journals, including the 'Lady's Magazine' and the 'London Magazine.' He contributed biographies to 'The Georgian Era' (1832-4), and was engaged on the staff of several London newspapers. In 1834, according to his biographers, he received the degree of LL.D. at Glasgow. Besides writing for the 'Dublin University Magazine' (1837-8), he edited the 'Liverpool Journal' and corresponded with American papers. He was the first European correspondent for the American press, and in 1852 emigrated to the United States, settling in New York, and engaging in literary work. In 1857 he went to Philadelphia, and there remained till his death on 30 November, 1880."

According to Allibone's "Dictionary of British and American Authors," Mackenzie "devoted himself to literature from his eighteenth year, when he undertook the editorship of a newspaper in England, in which capacity he continued, in various localities, until 1845, when he became London Secretary of a railway company, which latter position he resigned in 1851. In the interval he contributed largely to leading periodicals and annuals in England and America; and, writing a weekly news-letter to the 'New York Evening Star,' from 1834 to the decease of that paper, was the first regular salaried European correspondent of the American press."

Mackenzie's editorship of the "Aberdeen Constitutional" was presumably between 1837 and 1839, for Dr Joseph Robertson, the celebrated antiquary, was appointed editor in the autumn of 1839.

In the course of some articles on "Aberdeen Newspaper Life Fifty Years Ago" contributed to the "Free Press" by "An Old Press Hand" in 1887, the author [Rev. James H. Wilson, the founder of Albion Street Congregational Chapel] wrote—"The first editor of the 'Constitutional' was the late Dr Shelton Mackenzie, a genial Irishman whose previous reputation was in the direction of novel writing, but his knowledge of newspaper work was very limited, and he knew but little, and, we have reason to know, cared less for the politics in Church and State which the 'Constitutional' was intended to advocate. Still, there were some excellent leaders in the paper; its reviews were above the average; and the doctor occasionally wrote a leading article, in a side column, of a very able character, and showed good taste in the selections. Besides keeping up his connection with his London publishers, and writing for an American paper as its London correspondent, Dr Mackenzie had some influential friends at headquarters, so that when it became clear that he would have to leave the 'Constitutional,' he was not long until he got some appointment connected with the Court of Bankruptcy in Manchester, which did not prevent him from still doing some literary work. The doctor was a man of whom it might be said that in his writing there was 'nothing to extenuate,' nor did he 'set down aught in malice.'"

That Dr Mackenzie was the first editor of the "Constitutional" is open to doubt. According to Mr J. Malcolm Bulloch's "Bibliography of Local Periodical Literature" ("Scottish Notes and Queries," I., 54), the "Constitutional" was established in 1837, and was edited successively by Robert Cruickshank, Dr R. Shelton Mackenzie, and Dr Joseph Robertson.

R. A.

Rev. Samuel Clarke Gordon.

I have never seen a reference in the north to the fact that Rev. Samuel Clarke Gordon (born July 18, 1840; M.A. King's College, 1860) supplied a classic case deciding that a Nonconformist congregation has a right to dismiss its minister. This case, technically known as "Cooper v. Gordon," was decided by Vice-Chancellor Stuart in May, 1869, and was reported at length in the "Times" next day. In April, 1866, Gordon was appointed co-pastor to Rev. William Legg at Broad Street Independent Chapel, Reading. A year later dissatisfaction was expressed against him on eight grounds, and he was dismissed on September 8, 1868. The grounds were very remarkable, and were as follows—(1) He was said to be "too argumentative," his sermons containing trains of reasoning which the people could not carry away; (2) generally, he preached above the heads of the congregation; (3) too Arminian in doctrine; (4) set up too high a standard of Christian life; (5) "deficient in unction" and "Christian fire"; (6) he made the motive of Christianity not love but "dry and rigid duty"; (7) did not emphasise the "work of the spirit"; (8) said nothing to convince "unconverted sinners." At the meeting of the congregation which dismissed him, Gordon's supporters did not vote. As noted, the Vice-Chancellor decided against him, and awarded the plaintiffs the cost of the suit against him. The case (so extraordinary to the plain man) is briefly cited in Haydn's "Dictionary of Dates."

J. M. B.

Duke of Argyll's New Book.

INTIMATE SOCIETY LETTERS.

For two centuries the Dukes of Argyll have been notable figures in the history of the country. The ducal family has been distinguished for its great statesmen and great soldiers. The late Duke was one of the most impressive orators of last century—a century, too, which included Bright and Gladstone; and the present Duke has made for himself a distinguished position in the literary world, after a public career which included a term of office as Governor-General of Canada. His literary works are varied. They range over subjects so wide in interest as "Canadian Pictures," "Life of Palmerston," and the libretto of an Opera. The Duke's latest work, "Intimate Society Letters of the 18th Century," is a selection from the correspondence of the Argyll family, during a century when the art of letter-writing was much more in vogue than is the case at the present day. The correspondence begins in the reign of Queen Anne, a reign memorable for the impulse which then took place for raising the standard and tone of literary work, and ever memorable to Scotsmen for the passing of the Union between England and Scotland. In the Union negotiations the second Duke of Argyll took a prominent part, and the correspondence between the Duke and Lord Godolphin, Lord Treasurer and Prime Minister to Queen Anne, gives many interesting revelations of the character of the persons engaged in the affairs of State in Edinburgh, and confidential views as to the best course to be adopted in bringing about the Union.

A number of letters relating to the Jacobite wars of 1715 and 1745 are included in the volumes. The Argyll family had no sympathy with the Stuart pretensions, and the following letter from John Campbell, stationed at Inveraray, to the Duke in England, dated October 16, 1745, gives a vivid impression of the state of Scotland at that time:—

As the rebels are still at Edinburg, we have no accounts that can be depended on of what is doing there or in England, for as their affairs are in a very bad situation, they take great pains to hinder any true accounts to be sent, especially to the Highlands. On the contrary, we are daily entertained here with the most extravagant lyes that ever were heard of. There is not a day passes but we are told of some foreign troops being landed to their assistance, and tho there is not the least truth in these reports, the common people believe it firmly throughout all the Highlands, especially as they see no body in arms for the Government: and certainly it is a most unhappy thing that the misbehaviour of a few should have given the Government so bad an opinion in general of all Scotland, when it is plain to anybody here that if arms and ammunition was properly disposed of in this part of the country there might be a body of men raised in a month's time from this shore and those adjacent able to oppose the whole rebel army. But instead of this there has been a party of fifty men headed by a madman plundering the country and raising contributions for six weeks past in and about Dumbartonshire.

An idea of the expense of raising and conveying troops from one part of Scotland to another is also given by the reproduction of accounts.

Domestic bills in connection with the occupancy of Holyrood Abbey form entertaining reading, and include details which give an excellent idea of the cost of provisions in Edinburgh in the eighteenth century. The following are among the items:—

1 Pair of Buckskin Breeches	£1	3	0
1 Pair of Boots	1	0	0
To Rost Chickens, 2s 8d; veal cutlets, 2s 6d	0	5	2
To Rozard fish, 1s 2d; Peose, 2s 6d; Lobster, 1s 2d	0	4	10
To Gooseberrie Teart, 2s 6d; Sallad 8d	0	3	2
To Strawberries, Cream, and Sugar...	0	5	0
To Cook and Cadies	0	1	2
To 4 Bottles Claret	0	16	0
To Halfe a Hundred of Soap, 6d per pd.	1	8	0
To a stone of Cotten wicht candles...	0	9	4
To a woman to wash 4 days	0	4	0
To 11 days a mason pointing the Lodging	0	18	4
To 7 days a Labourer at Do.	0	7	0

The correspondence between the Duke of Argyll and his factor of Mull and Morvern shows how minutely his Grace went into the affairs connected with the management of his estates. In one instruction it is pointed out that the tenants are "bound by their Tacks to the building of houses and laying out Certain sums in making enclosures within years from the commencement of their Severall Tacks," and "such as fail are to be prosecuted for the same." Another instruction is that "all my Tennants within your charge are to be advertised that if they faill in taking due care of the woods growing on their severall farms, and to discover and give up to my factor any person they find stealing or destroying woods, that they will be prosecuted for any neglect of that kind in terms of the clause in their Tacks."

Considerable space is devoted to the Douglas Case, in which Lady Jane Stewart (sister of the Duke of Douglas) declared that her children—two twins—should succeed to the Douglas estates, and not the Duke of Hamilton's son. It was contended that Lady Jane Stewart had no children, and that her children were only peasant boys from France. The case excited so much attention that all Scotland was divided into partisans of Lady Jane or the Duke of Hamilton.

A Kincardineshire Parliamentary Election Ninety Years Ago.

On Thursday, 2nd [July, 1818], the election of a representative in Parliament for the county of Kincardine took place at Stonehaven. The meeting of Freeholders on this occasion was highly respectable. The preliminary steps having been gone through, in the usual form, Mr Robertson Scott rose, and said, that before proceeding to elect a member for the ensuing Parliament, he thought it proper that the present meeting should express their opinion of the conduct and services of the Gentleman who had represented them in the last Parliament. He accordingly moved that the thanks of the Freeholders be given to George Harley Drummond Esq., for his gentlemanly and upright conduct, as their Representative in the two last Parliaments. The motion was seconded by Mr Silver of Netherley, and carried unanimously. After which, Sir Robert Burnett, Bart., proposed Mr Drummond as a fit person to represent the county in the next Parliament. Mr Crombie of Phesdo seconded his nomination, which was cordially and unanimously carried. Mr Drummond then rose: he said he felt it altogether impossible to express his gratitude to the Freeholders of Kincardineshire, for the honour they had done him, in again electing him as their representative in the great council of the nation. He would only say, that it should be his constant study to promote the interests of the country at large, and of his constituents in particular, both in and out of the House of Commons; and, in giving his vote there, to regard only what he conceived to be the good of the country, without seeking the favour of Government, or dreading its displeasure. He concluded by observing that he was now placed in that situation which formed the summit of his wishes; and should ever retain the most grateful sense of the high honour thereby done him.

Mr Drummond gave an elegant Dinner in Collins's to the Freeholders, and a large body of gentlemen. The table was loaded with every delicacy that the season could produce, and the wines were of the choicest description. Mr Drummond's health having been drank after dinner, he took the opportunity of again thanking the Freeholders for the honour they had done him, in placing him, for the third time, in the distinguished station which he now occupied. In the course of the evening, a number of constitutional and appropriate toasts were drank; and Mr Drummond having craved permission to retire about 10 o'clock, the chair was taken by his son, who sustained the convivial and harmonious spirit of the meeting till a late hour.—"Aberdeen Journal," July 8, 1818.

The Loch Collection of Old Scottish Documents.

Messrs Glendinning and Co., Ltd., London, conducted a two-days' sale (July 18th and 19th) of a portion of this valuable collection, as briefly reviewed in No. 90 (January 5). Fair prices were obtained, but it is matter for regret that a larger proportion of the autographs and documents dealing exclusively with Scottish affairs do not come to Scotland.

Lawrances of Pitscow, Kininmonth.

("Scottish Notes and Queries," 2nd Series, VI. 45.)

The founder of this branch was William Lawrance I. He had:—

1 William II., born in the parish of Fraserburgh, who is dealt with separately. He died 12th January, 1836, aged 72.

2 Margaret, who married Alexander Scott in Killywharn, with issue—

(1) William, born 20th May, 1800, baptised 22nd May, 1800, before witnesses—William Duncan and Thomas Fraser, both in Killywharn (Aberdour Births).

(2) Andrew, born 30th June, 1805 (Ibid.).

(3) John, born 29th December, 1807 (Ibid.).

(4) George, born 26th August, 1810 (Ibid.).

(5) Samuel, born 15th October, 1815 (Ibid.).

(6) James, born 22nd September, 1818, baptised 12th October, 1818, by Rev. Mr Simpson, Tyrie (Ibid.).

William Lawrance II. married Christian Bruce (died 13th December, 1847, aged 77), with issue—

(1) Barbara, born 2nd December, 1805 (Aberdour Baptisms).

(2) William III., born at South Mains of Auchmedden 25th January, 1809 (Ibid.), who is dealt with separately.

(3) Samuel, late of Roundhillock, Kininmonth. He married Ann Shand, 26th May, 1844 (Aberdour Marriages), and died 29th May, 1855 (Aberdour Deaths), with issue—

(a) Samuel, who was married, and left two sons—(a) Alexander in Newcastle, (b) Samuel in Pitsligo.

(b) William—married, resides at Hythie, Mintlaw.

(c) Alexander, died unmarried.

(d) Annie, died unmarried.

(e) Isabella, died unmarried.

(4) Elizabeth, born 1812, who married, 5th November, 1831, John Cheyne, farmer, of the parish of Lonmay (Aberdour Marriages). A headstone to them at New Deer Churchyard is inscribed:—Erected / to the memory of / John Cheyne, / farmer, / West Skelmafilly, / who died 6th March, 1877, / aged 77 years / also his wife / Elizabeth Lawrence, / who died at West Skelmafilly 6th December, 1883, aged 71 years.

(5) Christina, married, 24th December, 1820, to James Bruce, by Rev. Mr Simpson, Tyrie (Aberdour Marriages). She resided at Gamrie.

(6) Barbara (Mrs Maitland), late of Fraserburgh.

(7) Margaret (Mrs Bruce), late of Fraserburgh.

William Lawrance III., late of Pitscow, died 12th March, 1898. Married—First, Isabella Bruce, 30th December, 1838 (Aberdour Marriages). She died 8th September, 1852, aged 47, leaving no issue. Secondly, Ann Hepburn (who still survives), by whom he had:—

(1) Mary (Mrs Davie), Mill of Gaval, Mintlaw, who has seven of a family.

(2) William (IV.) of whom later.

(3) Anne Eliza, unmarried, resides at Pitscow, Mintlaw.

(4) Alexander, unmarried, resides at Pitscow, Mintlaw.

(5) Samuel, married, with issue, presently residing at Cowal, Toronto, Canada.

(6) Isabella, unmarried, residing at Pitscow, Mintlaw.

(7) James, married, with two of a family, residing at 405 Carlton Street, Toronto, Canada.

(8) Robina Milne, unmarried, residing at 10 Northfield Place, Aberdeen.

(9) Margaret Christina, unmarried, residing at Pitscow, Mintlaw.

(10) Agnes, unmarried, residing at David Street, Langholm.

This branch of the Lawrances has adopted the spelling of the surname Lawrence.

William Lawrance IV. is married, with issue, and resides at 382 Logan Avenue, Toronto, Canada.

From Laurence (says S. Baring-Gold, M.A., in his "Family Names and Their Story") comes Larkin, Lawes, Law, Lawrie, Ranely, Lawson (page 57).

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1862.

1st January. At Woodhead of Laithers, Rev. John Webster, formerly Schoolmaster of Forglen, in his 73rd year.

15th January. Suddenly at Uppermill, Auchterless, while engaged in pastoral duty, Rev. George Dingwall, Minister of Auchterless, in the 76th year of his age, and 51st of his ministry.

19th January. At Burgie Lodge, Rev. George M'Kay, D.D., Minister of the Free Church, Rafford.

29th January. At 39 Union Place, Mr William Leslie Thomson, Merchant and Shipowner, Aberdeen, aged 42.

4th February. At 69 Dee Street, Margaret, eldest daughter of the late Alexander Brown, Esq., and widow of Rev. John Murray, D.D., of this city.

2nd February. At Balgownie Lodge, David Blaikie, Esq., aged 56.

4th February. At Straloch, aged 24, Leonora Sophia [Bond], beloved wife of John Ramsay, Esq. of Barra.

8th February. At 17 Golden Square, George Rainy, M.D.

10th February. At Meldrum House, Mrs Urquhart, senior, of Meldrum and Byth.

12th February. At the Parsonage, Ellon, Sophia Robertson, wife of Rev. N. Grieve.

6th February. At Ham, Surrey, in his 85th year, John Forbes, second son of the late William Forbes, Esq. of Skellater and Balbithan.

4th March. At his house, 90 Union Street, Thomas Reid, Advocate, aged 75.

4th March. At 2 Golden Square, in her 75th year, Mrs Anne Young, relict of Robert Morice, Advocate in Aberdeen.

6th March. At Grove Cottage, Aberdeen Elizabeth Georgina Ferguson, second surviving daughter of James Ferguson of Altens, Advocate, Aberdeen.

4th March. At Bridge of Dee, Margaret Gordon, aged 72, daughter of the late Colonel Gordon of Esslemont, and relict of George Davidson.

28th February. At the Manse of Udny, Anne Hector, wife of Rev. John Leslie, in her 31st year.

2nd March. At London, Alexander Baird, Esq. of Ury, Kincardineshire.

16th March. At Birkwood, Mr Alexander Leslie, aged 53.

20th March. At Marine Terrace, Aberdeen, William Brebner Lyall Grant, M.D., aged 30.

18th April. At Aberdeen Royal Lunatic Asylum, Robert Primerose, Surgeon, late of H.M. 99th Regiment, aged 55.

19th April. At 5 Carlton Villas, Maida Vale, London, Mary, wife of William N. Forbes, Esq. of Auchernach and Dunnottar.

24th April. At 70 Dee Street, Rev. Hugh Hart, in his 78th year.

1st May. At Fraserburgh, Rev. William Woodman.

4th April. At U.P. Manse, Whitehill, Rev. Adam Lind, in his 78th year.

16th May. At Middleton, James Bruce, Esq. of Inverquhomrie and Longside, aged 74.

24th May. At Kinmundy, James Ferguson, Esq. of Kinmundy, in his 74th year.

6th June. At Craigiechie, Perthshire, Rev. Donald Dewar, Minister of Ellon, and son of Rev. Principal Dewar, Aberdeen.

15th May. At Pernambuco, of yellow fever, Alexander Wales Walker, M.D., of St Clement Street, Aberdeen, aged 31.

20th June. At Aberdeen, Mr A. W. Chalmers, Governor of the Prison.

22nd July. At 161 Skene Street West, Eleanor Smith, relict of Mr Ferguson, Schoolmaster of Cove, Nigg.

6th August. At Balcairn, James Reid, Esq. of Muirton, aged 70.

13th August. At 17 Belmont Street, George Jaffray Nicol, M.D., aged 52.

13th August. At 24 Clarendon Road, Kensington, London, Andrew Sims, Esq., Commander, R.N., late of Peterhead, in his 71st year.

22nd August. At 7 Golden Square, Dr Laing, in his 79th year.

27th August. At Banchory, James Irvine, Surgeon, Old Aberdeen.

27th August. At Leith, suddenly, William Ferguson, Esq., of 31 Drummond Place, Edinburgh, second son of the late James Ferguson, Esq. of Kinmundy, in his 71st year.

13th October. At Leith-Hall, Sir Andrew Leith Hay, K.H., of Rannes, Convener of the County of Aberdeen.

30th October. Miss Grace Grant of Knockandhu, aged 73, the last of the family of Grant of Tullochgorum.

17th November. Suddenly at 25 Union Place, Aberdeen, in her 80th year, Isabella, daughter of the late Rev. William Morrice, Minister of Kincardine O'Neil, and relict of William Roger, Merchant, Aberdeen.

11th November. At Fordale House, Oldmeldrum, Jessie Elmslie, aged 80, wife of Mr James Duguid, farmer. Deceased was the youngest living of a family remarkable for longevity, the ages of the survivors being 92, 90, and 88 respectively.

16th November. At 105 Breadalbane Terrace, Glasgow, John Smith, LL.D., Editor of the "Glasgow Examiner."

20th November. At 15 Park Lane, London, of congestion of the lungs, James Farquharson, Esq. of Invercauld, aged 54.

25th November. At Manse of Boyndie, Ellen Anderson, wife of Rev. L. W. Grant, Minister of that parish.

24th November. At Frewen Hall, Oxford, Jane, wife of James Skene, Esq. of Rubislaw, and fourth daughter of the late Sir William Forbes, Bart. of Pitsligo, aged 75.

5th December. At Claremont Square, London, John Gaien, M.D., of Aberdeen, aged 53.

4th December. At 43 Victoria Street West, Mrs Helen [Fowler] Stirling, widow of Rev. John Stirling, Minister of Peterculter.

8th December. At Aberdeen, Jane, eldest surviving daughter of the late James Allardyce, Esq., Collector of Customs at the port of Aberdeen.

14th December. At Scotstown, Sir Michael Bruce of Stenhouse, Bart., in his 67th year.

20th December. At Boyndlie House, Alexander Forbes, Esq. of Boyndlie, aged 75.

12th December. At the Free Church Manse, Drumblade, Mary Ogg, wife of Rev. Alexander Forbes.

27th December. At Aberdeen, Walter Hood, Shipbuilder, aged 60.

30th December. At 231 Union Street West, John Cadenhead, M.D., aged 64.

23rd December. At Grove Cottage, Jane Ferguson, aged 82.

24th December. At 4 St Andrew's Place, Regents Park, London, the Right Hon Lady Forbes of Castle Forbes, in her 64th year.

26th December. At Aboyne, Dr Gerrard, aged 29.

Queries.

521. Alexander Gordon, Commissary Clerk of Aberdeen.—He was the son of John Gordon of Seaton, the deposed civilist of King's College, and was born in 1688. He married on July 21, 1716, Marjory Milne, daughter of James Milne of Blairton. He seems to have been admitted to the Advocates' Society in 1718. Can anybody tell me when he died, and whether he left issue? A series of articles on these Seaton Gordons began in the "Huntly Express" of July 22.

J. M. B.

522. Alexander Mitchell, Deskrie.—The "Aberdeen Journal" records the marriage, which took place at Aberdeen, 2nd February, 1817, of "James Milne, Esq., merchant, and one of the magistrates of the city, to Mrs Stuart, daughter of the late Alexander Mitchell, Esq. of Deskrie." Who was Mitchell, whom did he marry, and what was Mr Stuart's name? I presume the James Milne is the Lord Provost (1836-38) of that name, who is known to have married Jean Mitchell, and who is referred to in Lord Cockburn's "Circuit Journeys" thus—"We had a most diverting party at the Provost's on Saturday; a quadrille party and a solid supper. His name is Milne, an excellent octogenarian Whig, with a queer, out-of-the-way, capacious, old-fashioned house, and a still more queer and old-fashioned wife, but nice, kind, respectable, natural, happy bodies, with all manner of substantial comforts, and the accent and dialect of the place in great purity—much kindness and much laughter we had."

Donside.

523. Home and Horne Families.—Information is wanted as to when those families settled in Oyne or Old Rain. What relationship existed between them?

Bennachie.

No. 122.—August 17, 1910.

Escape from the Tolbooth.

The Tolbooth of Aberdeen, or "Mids o' Mar," as it was called, "possessed," says Dr Joseph Robertson in "The Book of Bon-Accord," "one feature which, in the eyes of its inmates, perhaps compensated for its filth, rigour, and gloom: it was marvellously unretentive, a happy illustration of Lovelace's lines,

"Stone walls do not a prison make,
Nor iron bars a cage."

He gives several instances of escapes from the Tolbooth, and others are encountered in the Town Council minutes. Here, for instance, is the story of one:—

19th March, 1673.—The said day, the councell vnderstanding that Frances Irvine of Hilloun, and severall other persons, prisoners for certane debts within the Tolbuith of this burghe, hade laitlie, in the night tyme, broken the vpper part of the pend of the said Tolbuith and chamber wherein they wer, and made ane holl by tacking out certane of the keystones therof and come doun to the laich Tolbuith by ane tow, and hade broken open the eistmost dore of the said Tolbuith and escaped, as wes cleirlie manifested and made known to the said councell; and withall considering that the said pend was never befor brockin, nether any such way of escape fallin vpon by any of the prisoners within the said Tolbuith, and that the said hous, in the dors, locks, windowes, pends, and all other parts therof wes, at any tyme of their escape sufficient, and that the reparation thereof befoir it could be againe made in good condition and secure, wold stand vast and great expenssis, besydes the afront and abusse done to the toun in the said marer; and withall considering that the bracking of the King's prison housse was ane cryme lyable to sever punishment and pecuniall mulet, conforme to severall Acts of Parliament made theranent and practise of this Kingdome: therfor ordanis and appoynts summonds to be raised befor the Justice-Generall against the said Frances Irvine and the other persons guiltie in the forsaid bussines for the forsaid effect, and the same to be prosecute with all diligence, and the thesaurer to deburs the expenssis theranent, and the same to be allowit in his accomptis.

The Town Council, however, not content with indulging in this (probably futile) procedure, ordained the Dean of Guild "to cause repair the Tolbuith and prison hous, in so farr as the same can be gone about for the present," and also adopted this further minute—

The Councell ordanis that in tyme coming the toun serjands of this brughe be cairfull and dilligent in ther ductie of attending on the Tolbuith and prison hous at all tyms and occasions necessar, according to their severall vices, and that they nightlie tack inspection of the dors, locks, windowes, walls, floors, and all other parts therof, if the same be sure and sufficient, and if they find any defect theranent that they instantlie report the same to the magistrate, and that they each night dewyde the prisoners in severall rouins and chambers, and lock the severall dors of the chambers vpon them vntill the morneing; and that they abstaine from all extraordinarie drinking, or any other thing whatsumeuer, which may impeil or withdraw them from their ductie, with certificatioun if they be fund to contravein any of the premissis that they sall be depryved of their offices, and they and their cautioners made lyable for macking vp any prejudice sustenit in any of the forsaids particulars in ther defaults.

An announcement in the "Aberdeen Journal" of 26th February, 1823, bears that on the previous night William M'Leod, Neil M'Leod, Thomas Donaldson, William Dun, and Alexander Martin, who had been committed for Circuit Court trial, "had broken out of prison," and "requiring all constables, messengers, and officers of Justice to apprehend them wherever they may be found."

Loch Kinnord.*

(See also No. 118, July 20.)

Without noticing the chapters of Scottish History in which Upper Deeside is concerned, we may go on to chapter ix., titled "Archæology and Relics of Antiquity." In Loch Kinnord there are two islands, one natural and the other artificial. The former is the larger, and is about a Scots acre in extent. On it the outlines of a building, supposed to have been a castle, can be traced in a dry season. The island is about 80 yards from the north shore, and it had been connected with the mainland by a gangway formed of beams of oak. These were utilised in making the foundations of the first bridge at Ballater, built in 1780-1. Before gunpowder came into general use, castles were sometimes built on islands, natural or artificial, as in Loch Leven and Loch Morlich. The smaller island is surrounded by a causeway of loose stones held in position by horizontal beams and upright posts. Mr Michie gives an account of interesting things which have been found in the lake, amongst which are a bronze vessel with three feet, a handle, and a spout. A bronze spearhead with a portion of a handle made of oak was found sticking up vertically in the mud at the bottom of the loch. Boats of various kinds have also been found. Some of these had been made of the trunks of old trees, hollowed out, and one had been built

* Loch Kinnord: Its History and Antiquities. New and Revised Edition. By the Rev. J. G. Michie. With 34 Illustrations. Aberdeen: D. Wyllie and Son.

up of oak planks riveted together. Like canoes found in pools in peat mosses, these boats had probably been used for bringing to land reeds and aquatic plants growing in the loch to be used as thatch for dwellings or as food for horses and cattle.

A peninsula named Gardiebane projects into the south side of the loch. It is surrounded by a rampart, and from its appearance it seems to have served as a fold for cattle sent away from farms to pasture on hill ground and to be away from growing crops. The name Gardiebane means an enclosure for a cattle fold. Near this spot there is an underground house. From its proximity to the fold this might have been a place where dairy produce and milking vessels had been kept. If we might suggest a purpose to be served by the artificial island, it would be that it had been used as a place for storing hay made of grass cut in the shallow parts of the loch. The volume contains a plan and view of an underground house at Blue Cairns, at some distance from Loch Kinnord, which was discovered and excavated in 1894. This had been either a dairy or a house for accommodating women in summer when in charge of herds of cows far from cultivated ground.

There are also in the volume views of sculptured stones which must belong to the period 563-1100, beginning with the coming of St Columba and ending with the establishment of parishes and churches in Scotland. A stone with elaborate tracery on a cross, originally on the north side of Loch Kinnord, must have been carved near the end of the Columban period. Another fragment of a cross must have been set up at the grave of a priest, for it shows a mirror by which a priest required to see that his hair was in order before he said mass. A slab from Tullich Churchyard shows a mirror, and above it a representation of the sea monster which swallowed Jonah. This is a symbol of the Resurrection of Christ from the grave. At the top there is a rude representation of the Ark of the Covenant, across which is placed Aaron's Rod, bent twice to let it go into the Ark.

The view of the Tomachar Stone, now at Tillypronie House, shows Aaron's Rod with a handle at one end and an almond at the other. The rod is not broken, but bent twice, and placed in front of a representation of the Ark, which has feet. Below it is a Crescent, an emblem of the Virgin Mary, across which is placed the rod (bent) of Joseph when her suitor, as described in the legend. These symbols are shown also on p. 155. On the Craigmyle stone is shown a rude figure of the Ark of the Convenant and the Brazen Serpent, an emblem of the Crucifixion of Christ.

The Migvie stone has a cross of plaited work, and emblems in the angles between the arms. One is the Ark of the Covenant with Aaron's Rod, another the Crescent and Joseph's Rod, a third a pair of shears for trimming a priest's hair, and the fourth is a man on horseback. There is also the figure of a man on horseback on the other side of the stone. The Ark, crossed by Aaron's Rod and the Shears, indicates that the stone marked the grave of a priest, and the amount of ornament and the two figures of horsemen — non-religious emblems—show that the stone belongs to the end of the Columban period. Mr Michie must not be held responsible for the explanations here given of the symbols on the stones.

There are also in the volume two biographical sketches, one The Story of Nellie Ogg, a blind girl who herded her father's goats on the island in Loch Kinnord, and the other of William MacPherson, whose early years were spent in Strathdon in poverty and hardship, but who became more prosperous after removing to the neighbourhood of Loch Kinnord.

Exhibition of Curios, Etc., at Laurencekirk.

The recent Exhibition of Curios, Arts, and Crafts held at Laurencekirk is worthy of permanent record, not only on account of the monetary value of the articles displayed, their general rarity, the gradual development in manufacture they manifested, but the memories which they revived of many important families formerly connected with Kincardineshire and contiguous counties, but who are now, alas! extinct.

The first section consisted of upwards of 100 old pictures of local interest, old prints daguerreotypes, etc., embracing an engraving after the painting by Reynolds of Laurencekirk's distinguished son James Beattie, LL.D., portraits of Field-Marshal Keith, Bishop Keith, Sir Thomas Craig of Riccarton, Fotheringham House, Edzell Castle, Glamis Castle, Fetteresso Castle, and the Old House of Urie.

In the second section were 153 specimens of Scottish pebble and Cairngorm jewellery, and also brooches, including an exhibit showing twelve samples of Scottish jewellery, another showing sixty Montrose pebbles, others showing the Lindsay, Macpherson, Menzies, Tait, and Hutchison Clan brooches, silver and copper coins, medals, miniatures, old watches, medallion of the celebrated Lord Monboddo, old Aberdeenshire jewel-box, and ancient samplers.

Section three was devoted to Eastern ornaments, embroideries, robes, artistic Eastern work, Paisley shawls, etc., upwards of 200 specimens being exhibited.

In section four were 134 specimens of weapons, representative of all countries, with ornaments and utensils of brass, pewter, copper, and other metals. Prominent among these were an Andrea Ferrara sword, which belonged to David Tyrie of Dunnideer, and used by him when out with Lord Pitsligo's Horse in the Rebellion of '45; an Andrea Ferrara double-edged claymore, in original cow-hide scabbard, which belonged to M Donald of Glencoe; a pair of gold- and silver-mounted pistols from Culloden; knife used by Prince Charlie at that battle; copper urn, originally the property of Robert Barclay of Ury, who died in 1747; crusies and bronze bracelets and finger-rings.

In section five were 180 exhibits of antique furniture, old china, etc., embracing Queen Mary's footstool from Dunnottar Castle (?), a small mirror from Dunnottar, a table and a work-box, each 200 years old, and a chair made from the oak of a French sloop of war which sank in Montrose Harbour in 1745 when landing troops for Prince Charlie.

Section six was devoted almost exclusively to exhibits of the various classes of snuff and other ornamental boxes as manufactured at Laurencekirk by the Stiven family, and which for several generations brought credit to the town. Regret was freely expressed that the important industry was allowed to die.

In section seven were nearly 500 specimens of curios, natural history, geological specimens, etc. Among these were two hand-loom shuttles (last worked in Bervie), stone-weight as used in Keith-hall 200 years ago, toddy rummer, used by Dr Samuel Johnson, probably on the occasion of his visit to Laurencekirk with his biographer Boswell, horn used at the battle of Harlaw in 1411, copy of the Bishops' Bible 1575, and original copy of the first edition of The Authorised Version 1611, beggars' badges applicable to Conveth, Huntly, Glenbervie, Montrose, and Forfar, native stone axes, etc.

In section eight were upwards of 200 specimens of modern local artistic books, selected with both care and discrimination.

Paltry Emoluments to Schoolmasters.

The following advertisement, which appeared in the "Aberdeen Journal" of May 22, 1816, shows the miserable salary paid to schoolmasters a century ago:—

The Parochial School of Auldearn being just now vacant, the Heritors will meet, in the Manse of Auldearn, for the election of a schoolmaster, on Thursday, the 11th day of July next, at 12 o'clock. As the schoolhouse of this parish stands in a rich and populous country, where a successful teacher cannot fail to assemble a numerous school, and as the Salary is the maximum allowed by Act of Parliament, being, together with the session Clerk's Fees, at an average of the last seven years, almost £40 Sterling, this situation becomes an object worthy the attention of most young men who desire to follow the useful and respectable employment of the education of youth; and as the Heritors are determined that nothing shall influence their choice but the qualifications for the office which the Candidates discover, and the certificates which they produce, no one, for being a stranger in the county, need be discouraged from offering himself as a Candidate, if his qualifications are ample and his recommendations strong. The Heritors are, however, anxious, if possible, to have a man who means to remain in the office, and who will lay his whole heart to the discharge of its important duties. Such Candidates, therefore, as have no farther views, will have a decided preference.

[The "views" as tabooed in the concluding sentence were the customary aspirations of teachers to become parish ministers. The divinity course could then be taken by instalments, and probably two-thirds of the ministers were schoolmasters to begin with.—Ed.]

"Major-General Sir Cosmo Gordon."

In the catalogue of the Boston (Mass.) Athenæum (B. 1164), a pamphlet entitled "Account of Two Visits to the Anopæa or Highlands above Thermopylæ," is attributed to "Major-General Sir Cosmo Gordon." This is a mistake, for Mr C. T. Gordon of Cairness has favoured me with a look of the pamphlet, which was written by Major-General Thomas Gordon of Cairness and Buthlaw, as follows:—

"Account of two visits to the Anopæa, or Highlands above Thermopylæ, made in June and July, 1837," with a map, by Major-General Gordon, F.R.S., Athens ("printd." by Em. Antoniades, 1838. 8vo., pp., 12).

Gordon started from Lamia at 3 p.m. on June 22, and visited the following places during his journey—Dhamasta, Dhrakospilia ("a delightful village"), the monastery of Palaeoyani, and returned to Lamia on the morning of June 24. He started a second excursion from Lamia on the evening of July 9, and visited Mustafebey, from which he was guided on July 10 by a celebrated robber, who had made his submission and was now offering Gordon his services. He then visited the fountain of Khalkomata, the village Eleftherokhori ("now deserted") the plateau of Nevropolis, and other places in the neighbourhood.

J. M. Bulloch.

Jovial Wedding at Fintray.

At Fintray, on 21st July, 1800, Ann Ferguson, after a courtship of ten days, presented herself before the Altar of Hymen, and gave her hand to Robert Porter. The age of this venerable and happy pair amounts to about 150 years. So large was the company who honoured them with their presence that it was judged expedient for the clergyman to perform the ceremony in the Grand Temple of Nature. That the scene of festivity might not be too soon interrupted by Sunday, the marriage was solemnised on Monday afternoon. In the evening there was an elegant ball, attended by many Ladies of the first rank in that corner of the country. From one family were present no fewer than 50 persons. An assembly so numerous, so cheerful, and so elegant has not been remembered at Fintray for 50 years past.—"Aberdeen Journal," July 28, 1800.

Longevity of a Horse.

Shadrach, a small Highland pony, became the property of Alexander Leith, Esq. of Freefield, when only ten days old, and was supported for five months on cow's milk. Although subjected to the greatest fatigues on the road, he was always in high health and spirits, and possessed all the good qualities esteemed in the horse. Being in the fortieth year of his age, and symptoms of old age becoming apparent, Mr Leith gave orders that his existence should be terminated in the easiest and speediest manner that could be devised, which order was executed on 26th September last.—"Aberdeen Journal," December 26, 1821.

Michie Extracts.

(From "Weekly Free Press.")

Robert Michie, Crofts of Newton, Drumblade, died 27th April, 1882, aged 68.

Jane Birse, wife of William Michie, died at Wester Anguston, Peterculter, 27th November, 1882, aged 80.

Alexander Michie, fishcurer, Point Law, Aberdeen, died at the Royal Infirmary, 6th December, 1882.

Mary Michie, wife of David Ogilvie, farmer, Easterhall, Lintrathen, Forfarshire, and daughter of William Imray, shoemaker, Aberdeen, died suddenly at 47 Woolmanhill, Aberdeen, in 1882.

(From Various Sources)

John Wood Wiseman, cooper, 19 Denmark Street, Fraserburgh, and his wife, Sarah Michie, had a daughter, Isabella Michie, born 11th May, 1895, baptised in the vestry 2nd February, 1896, by the Rev. A. E. Claxton (John Knox Parish Church Baptismal Register).

James [Johnstone] Michie, seaman, 100 Causewayend, Aberdeen, and his wife, Margaret Doig, had a son Charles, born 27th July, 1884, baptised at 100 Causewayend, 4th September, 1884, by Rev. Herbert Bell before witnesses—Mrs Drysdale and Mrs Doig (Ibid.)

James J[ohnstone] Michie, seaman, 40 Charles Street, Aberdeen, and his wife, Margaret Doig, had a daughter, Jessie Johnston Michie, born 28th November, 1885, baptised at 40 Charles Street, Aberdeen, 8th March, 1886, by Rev. Herbert Bell, before witnesses—Mrs Doig and Mrs Christie (Ibid.).

James Johnstone Michie, seaman, 56 Wellington Street, Aberdeen, and his wife, Margaret Doig, had a son, James Johnstone Michie, born 7th January, 1888, baptised 1st April, 1888, by Rev. Charles Caddell Macdonald in the vestry, before witnesses—Mrs Michie and Mr Tapp [church officer] (Ibid.).

The "Aberdeen Journal" of Wednesday, 16th November, 1842, contains the following notices:—Married—At Sunninghill, on the 8th instant, George Ashburner, Esq., of Calcutta, to Katherine, eldest daughter of Michie Forbes, Esq. of Sillwood Park, Berks and Crimond, Aberdeenshire.

[It appears that Sir Charles Forbes, 1st Bart., born 3rd April, 1773, married on 23th February, 1800, Elizabeth, widow of William Ashburner, and daughter of John Cougrave, a major in the H.E.I.C.S., by whom (who died 14th April, 1861) he had issue.]

Jane Duncan Michie, East North Street, Aberdeen, aged 36 years, was buried in John Knox's Churchyard, 6th September, 1865, in grave 180.

Alexander B. Michie, 149 George Street, Aberdeen, aged 5 months, was buried in John Knox's Churchyard, in lair 23 K, on 28th May, 1889.

The following lines on a schoolmaster in Cleish Parish, Fifeshire, were written by the immortal Robert Burns:—

Here lie Willie Michie's banes.
O Satan, when ye tak him,
Gie him the schulin' o' your weans,
For clever deils he'll mak them!

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary, 1863.

January. At 34 Back Wynd, Anne M'Leod, wife of William Speid, Advocate, Aberdeen.

2nd January. At John Street, Montrose, Catharine, eldest daughter of the late Patrick Orr, Esq. of Bridgeton, Kincardineshire, aged 88.

16th January. At 249 Union Street West, Harriet Roger, wife of Patrick Cooper, Advocate in Aberdeen, aged 30.

13th January. At 35 Union Place, Aberdeen . . . Jessy, oldest and last surviving daughter of William Dingwall Fordyce, Esq. of Techmuiry, in her 57th year.

10th January. At Bellfield, Banchory-Ternan, the wife of William J. Adams, Esq., surgeon.

16th January. At Nice, aged 18, Mary Harman Anne, second daughter of Captain Johnstone Gordon of Craig.

20th January. At Nice, Elizabeth Shepherd [Gordon], wife of Captain Johnstone Gordon of Craig.

22nd January. At 89 Union Street, Aberdeen, William Chalmers, aged 23, Staff Assistant-Surgeon, late 1st Royals, fourth son of the late A. W. Chalmers, Esq., Governor of Prisons.

27th January. At 6 Frederick Street, Helen Donald, widow of Robert Cruickshank, A.M., late schoolmaster of Dyce.

25th January. At Belmont, Bridge of Allan, Isabella Montgomerie, widow of Rev. Alexander Macfarlane, minister of Crathie and Braemar.

31st January. At the Schoolhouse, Turriff. Rev. John Clark, for many years schoolmaster of the parish, aged 77.

23rd January. At Heidelberg, Mary Anne Meiklejohn, second daughter, and on the 26th Mrs Meiklejohn, widow of Rev. Robert Meiklejohn, minister of Strathdon.

6th February. At her house, 34 Bon-Accord Terrace, in her 76th year, Mary, daughter of the late William Young, Esq. of Sheddocksley.

16th February. At Grove Cottage, James Ferguson, of Altens, advocate, Aberdeen.

14th February. At Breda, Robert Farquharson, Esq. of Allargue and Breda, in his 81st year.

21st March. At Waterton Aberdeen, Jane Mary, wife of Alexander George Pirie, aged 21.

1st April. At Pitsligo, Rev. Edward Hume, minister of that parish.

13th April. At 2 Silver Street, Aberdeen, Mary Anne Skene, aged 84, daughter of the late George Skene, Esq., M.D.

15th April. At 19 Queen's Gate, Hyde Park, London, Mary Elizabeth [Thompson], wife of W. J. Lumsden, Esq. of Balmedie, aged 42.

12th April. At 35 Dee Street, Aberdeen, Anna Maria Seton, aged 75, youngest daughter of the late Sir William Seton of Pitmedden, Bart.

29th April. At Bridgend, Fyvie, in her 87th year, Miss Elizabeth Hay of Monkshill.

12th May. At Brucklay Castle, Mrs Dingwall Fordyce of Culsh and Brucklay.

8th May. At the Manse, Boyndie, Rev. L. W. Grant.

18th May. At Aberdeen, Magdaline, widow of Dr Neil Sutherland.

22nd May. At Old Aberdeen, Alexander Torrie, advocate, aged 52.

28th May. At Kepplestone, aged 83, Mary Garden, widow of Thomas Burnett, advocate in Aberdeen.

4th June. At Tonley, Tough, Patrick Moir Byres of Tonley [aged 61].

15th June. John Yeats of Kincorth, advocate in Aberdeen.

16th June. At 58 Gerrard Street, Ann M'Lennan, relict of Rev. Alexander Thomson, minister of George Street Congregational Chapel, aged 84.

19th June. At Church Street, Huntly, Mrs Jane Walker, widow of Rev. James Walker, Episcopal Clergyman, Huntly, aged 81.

18th June. At Manse of Cruden, Alexander Ross, second son of the late John Leith Ross of Arnage.

22nd June. At Grantown, Strathspey, Dr James Blaikie, aged 30, son of the late John Blaikie, Esq. of Devanha House, Aberdeen.

19th July. At Springbank Terrace, Aberdeen, Sir Isaac Grant of Monymusk, Bart.

20th July. At 14 Rubislaw Terrace, Aberdeen, John Adam, Esq. of Scobbach, in his 80th year.

23rd July. At Witch-hill, Fraserburgh, Ellen M'Ewen, spouse of Lewis Chalmers.

1st August. At Springbank, Dee Street, Thomas Laurie, late ironfounder, Ferryhill, in his 72nd year.

4th August. At the Free Church Manse, Glenbervie, Rev. Andrew Glen.

21st August. At Laurencekirk, Elizabeth Christie, wife of Rev. James Mitchell, of Garvock, aged 61.

13th September. At 35 Castle Street, Aberdeen, Arthur Thomson, agent, Bank of Scotland, aged 63.

9th September. At Raemoir, William Innes, Esq. of Raemoir, aged 82.

13th September. At Orton Longueville, Peterborough, the Most Hon. Charles, Marquis of Huntly, aged 71.

16th September. At Caskieben, Alexander Henderson M.D., of Caskieben, etc., aged 83.

17th October. At 22 Union Place, of typhus fever, George Carr, M.D., aged 23.

16th October. At Port-Elphinstone, Christian Campbell, wife of William Davidson, grain merchant, aged 25.

12th October. At the Free Church Manse, Gartly, Rev. Malcolm M'Gregor, aged 43.

18th October. William Forsyth Grant, Esq. of Ecclesgreig, Montrose.

21st October. At the Manse, Insch, Rev. Adam Mitchell, LL.D., minister of that parish, in his 64th year.

26th October. At Ballater, Rev. George Smith, minister of Birse.

28th October. At Arndilly House, Mrs Macdowall Grant.

6th November. At Finzean, Alison Mary Ainslie, wife of Francis Farquharson.

8th December. At 28 Crown Street, William Lumsden, Esq. of Glasgoego, aged 65.

2nd December. At Craigiebuckler, Mary Irvine, wife of John Stewart, Esq.

6th December. At Longside, Rev. William Center, schoolmaster there.

10th December. At Aberdeen, Margaret Brown, relict of Lieutenant-Colonel James Brander of Pitgaveny, Morayshire.

17th December. At Carden Place, Alexander Duthie, shipowner, aged 64.

28th December. At 46 Albemarle Street, London, the Dowager Lady Abercromby of Birkenbog.

Queries.

524. PHESDO.—When was this Kincardineshire estate purchased by the late Sir John Gladstone of Fasque, and from whom and when did Alexander Crombie previously acquire it?

Y.

525. THE MOORISONS, PROVOSTS OF ABERDEEN.—Can any reader say when the Moorisons changed their surname to Morison? I have seen several deeds bearing the signature of Provost James Moorison in the form shown by Mr Alexander M. Munro in his "Memorials of the Aldermen, Provosts and Lord Provosts of Aberdeen," p 217.

W. BROWN.

526. LAURENCEKIRK SNUFF-BOXES.—Can any reader say authoritatively the date when Charles Stiven founded at Laurencekirk the business which afterwards became famous for its manufacture of snuff and other boxes?

A. G.

Answers.

324. NELLFIELD CEMETERY.—Further to my answer in No. 73 (September 8, 1909), it may be stated that Nellfield Cemetery is of a triangular shape, the sides measuring about 625, 725, and 850 feet respectively. It covers a gross area of 5½ acres. It is divided into three portions, which are practically equal, by transverse walls. The north boundary is Great Western Road, the west Nellfield Place, and the south a wall at the back of the houses on the west side of Holburn Street. The apex of the triangle is at the north-east end, where the sexton's conjoined residence and office stands. It is computed that the cemetery contains 6000 lairs.

H.

512. FORBES PARISH CHURCH.—A well near this church was for long known as "The Nine Maidens' Well," and from this circumstance it may be presumed that the old church had been dedicated to the Nine Maidens, who were the daughters of St Donald, a Scot, who lived among the Picts in the Glen of Ogilvy. It is traditionally stated that these ladies were deeply religious, and living an isolated life, tilled the ground by their own hands, partaking of food but once a day.

R.

516. THE GORDONS OF CROUGHLY.—Croughly is in Kirkmichael parish, Banffshire, the Gordons being merely tenants and not owners of the land they occupied. Their history has been told in "The Croughly Book," compiled by Captain George Huntly Blair Gordon, R.E., edited by J. Percy Gordon, and printed by subscription for private circulation, 1895, 8vo., pp. 103. "M. H. M." will find that Mr J. M. Bulloch, 118 Pall Mall, London, has collected much further information about the family. Meantime, I give the immediate descent of General Gordon—

William Gordon, Croughly (1663-1725), whose son, John Gordon (1695-1738), married Margaret, daughter of James Grant of Ruthven. The issue, John Gordon of Croughly (1725-1812), married Ann Forbes, daughter of John Forbes of Bellabeg; with issue General William Alexander Gordon (1769-1855) of Lochdhu, who married Mary Anne Gordon, daughter of James Gordon of Rosieburn.

The general was the father of Sir Charles Alexander Gordon, who wrote his own autobiography.

L.

469. "TOMPURON."—Surely it is Tomperran in Perthshire that is inquired about. The two words are so much alike that a mistake may easily be made.

Y.

510. PATRON SAINT OF BEGGARS.—St Giles is the patron saint of beggars, hence the suburbs of cities are frequently named "St Giles."

G. G.

511. ST PETER'S CHURCHYARD OR CEMETERY.—St Peter's Church (or Chapel) was situated in the Spital, in what is now the upper and older portion of St Peter's Cemetery. (See article on "St Peter's Hospital—The Kirktown," by John Milne, LL.D., in "Aberdeen Daily Journal," 30th June, 1906).

R. A.

No. 123.—August 24, 1910.

The Rob Roy of the North.

James Macpherson, the Highland freebooter who earned the above title, was a notable character, with a history around which tradition has woven many fanciful embroideries. It is recorded that memorials connected with his trial and death were collected with a view to a Waverley novel on the subject by Walter Scott; but Sir Walter declined to use them owing to an injudicious announcement having been made in advance. The result is that they remain raw material not yet embodied in a work of imagination. It may be of interest to recall some of the facts in the life of this romantic character, as well as some of the curious fictions that still cling to his memory.

He was the illegitimate son of a gipsy woman. His father belonged to an Inverness-shire family, and the boy was reared in his father's house until the father died; then the mother claimed her son, and he grew up, learning the habits and pursuits of the gipsy race. He was remarkable not only for strength and beauty, but for certain accomplishments which, in spite of his wandering life, he had succeeded in acquiring. For one thing, he was a skilled violinist. It is said also that, although he was a thief and a notorious robber, he carried on his nefarious trade with a certain show of humanity, never being guilty of cruelty or murder, and, like his more famous model, plundering the rich to relieve the necessities of the poor. After various escapes from justice, he was eventually apprehended at a Keith market by the Laird of Braco—a Duff—and carried to Banff, where he was tried and executed in the month of November, 1700.

The story of his capture is as follows—Braco, spying Macpherson in the market at Keith, got together a dozen men and attacked the freebooter, who was accompanied by a friend called Brown. A desperate resistance was made by Macpherson and his associates. One of these stabbed Braco, but the dirk merely grazed a rib, and the assailant was struck dead by Braco's followers. The Macpherson party were being worsted, and began to retreat towards the church. Here Macpherson, parrying the attacks of his enemies, stumbled over a gravestone, and he and Brown were captured and carried to a house in the town, where they were left under guard.

But the Laird of Grant, when he heard of Macpherson's plight, gathered thirty men together, and demanded the prisoners, swearing that no Duff in Scotland should keep them from him. Braco made answer in the coolest fashion that he had intended to send Macpherson to prison, but was quite willing to yield him up to superior force. So the prisoners were released. Braco, however, took a turn through the market, and, finding some justices of the peace, held a sudden court, and assembled sixty able men, who soon recaptured the prisoners.

Macpherson, with three others, James Gordon, Peter Brown, and Donald Brown, was tried at Banff before a jury on 7th November, and the Sheriff pronounced sentence of death on Macpherson and Gordon. The charge was that they were Egyptians and vagabonds, and oppressors of His Majesty's free liege; that they were thieves and receivers of thieves; and the sentence was that they were to be taken to the Cross of Banff, and hanged by the neck to the death, on the 16th of November, between the hours of two and three in the afternoon.

The sentence was duly carried out at the Town Cross of Banff, which in these days stood in front of that classic street—the Strait Path. For a century the Town Cross was located outside the town, but in recent years has been restored to a place in front of the old Town-house, at no great distance from its original site.

So far, the bare, cold facts. Now for the charming, romantic elements in this robber's history. The first of these concerns the execution. The story goes, and has been repeated time and again in historical works, that the magistrates of Banff, fearing a reprieve which rumour said was on its way, and determined at all hazards to get rid of this disturber of the peace, put forward the town clocks and thus unduly hastened the execution. Needless to say, there is not a particle of truth in this tradition, but it dies hard.

Other highly-embellished narratives with most circumstantial details, are also in existence. Macpherson, as we have seen, was executed in the Low Street, one of the lower parts of the town. Tradition says he was hanged on the Gallowhill, a conspicuous place on the top of the ridge along which Banff is built. The courier who was bringing the reprieve, and who knew the importance of his mission, as he rode down the Gaveny Brae on his way to Banff saw the crowd assembled for the execution, and blew a warning note on his horn. He blew so lustily that he burst it. However, he was too late to save the doomed man. Another version says that the people on the Gallowhill saw the courier riding over Banff Bridge, and caused him to be delayed there till Macpherson was dead.

Unhappily for these stories, there was no bridge over the Deveron at Banff for 65 years after Macpherson's execution. Moreover, a messenger would not come by the Gaveny Brae. Most fatal of all is the fact that the execution did not take place on the Gallowhill, but at a low-lying part of the town, from which the Gaveny Brae is not visible, and which is quite invisible from the Gaveny Brae.

It has been said that owing to their unseemly conduct on this occasion, the magistrates of Banff were punished by being deprived of the power

of execution from thenceforth. Yet, though Macpherson was the last to suffer execution in Banff, on many occasions thereafter we find the Town Council appointing a public executioner for the burgh, and in 1730 that official was sent to Aberdeen to execute a criminal there. The probability is that, owing to the desperate character of the prisoner, and the fact that he was understood to have many sympathisers amongst the lower class, the magistrates elected to execute him at the prison door, and run no risks by conveying him so far afield as the Gallowhill.

Another interesting tradition—equally unreliable—is that connected with Macpherson's "Rant." We have said that the robber was skilled in playing the violin. The story goes that on his way to the place of execution, he carried his favourite instrument with him, played the tune which he had composed in prison, danced round the gallows to the air, and then offered his violin to any sympathetic well-wisher in the crowd who cared to take it. No one having the courage to accept it, he broke it in pieces over his knee, or, as another version more picturesquely says, over the executioner's head, then threw the fragments into the open grave prepared for him, and flung himself from the ladder.

This is a highly dramatic tradition, and it is a pity to dissipate it, but we may be sure that the magistrates of Banff knew their duties better than allow a desperado of Macpherson's known stamp to proceed to the gallows unbound. His arms were sure to be pinioned, and violin exhibitions must have been impossible to him. However, have we not the very words of the "Rant" preserved to this day? The first stanza is—

I spent my time in rioting,
  Debauch'd my health and strength;
I pillaged, plundered, murdered;
  But now, alas! at length
I'm brought to punishment condign;
  Pale death draws near to me—
The end I never did expect,
  To hang upon a tree.

There is internal evidence to prove that the ballad was composed shortly after Macpherson's death by some person with more education than the freebooter was likely to possess; but it is impossible to convince some people that Macpherson was not himself the author. Burns by his more poetic version of the song, which he called Macpherson's "Farewell," helps to keep this tradition alive. Here is one of his stanzas, together with the chorus—

I've lived a life of strife and strife;
  I die by treacherie:
It burns my heart I must depart
  And not avenged be.
Sae rantingly, sae wantonly,
  Sae dauntingly, gaed he,
He played a spring, and danc'd it round
  Below the gallows tree.

For many years a huge, two-handed sword was exhibited in the Duke of Fife's mansion, Duff House, as the veritable weapon of Macpherson. It was a most unwieldy weapon, quite useless in the hands of any ordinary man. That it was really Macpherson's there is no proof, and the tradition, if it was a tradition, may be doubted; but its existence added one more circumstantial detail to the hero's romantic story.

A historian of Banff, long since deceased, took the trouble, about 1820, to dig down at the foot of the gallows tree, and disinterred the bones of a man of powerful build. He rather precipitately came to the conclusion that he had found the very bones of Macpherson. But many executions had taken place there before 1700, when Macpherson suffered, and, besides, we must remark that Macpherson was not executed at the Gallowhill, and very probably was not buried there.

As showing the effect which a story like Macpherson's may exercise on persons of imaginative nature, we may quote from Mr Edmond Gosse's article on Edward Fitzgerald ("Fortnightly Review," 1889). Mr Gosse gives an extract from a letter of Fitzgerald, dated 1844. "One day we had Alfred Tennyson here: an unforgettable day. He stayed with us till late: forgot his stick; we dismissed him with 'Macpherson's Farewell.' Macpherson (see Burns) was a Highland robber; he played that tune of his own composition on the way to the gallows: asked 'If in all that crowd the Macpherson had any clansmen?' holding up the fiddle that he might bequeath it to someone. 'Any kinsman, any soul that wished him well?' Nothing answered, nothing durst answer. He crushed the fiddle under his foot, and sprang off. The tune is rough as hemp, but strong as a lion. I never hear it without something of emotion—poor Macpherson! though the artist hates to play it. Alfred's dark face grew darker, and I saw his lip quivering." The freebooter and his fate were also made the subject of quite a sympathetic burst of eloquence by no less a personage than Thomas Carlyle. . . .—"The Scottish Field," June, 1910.

An Early Gordon Reiver.

The history of the Gordons in England has not been properly tackled yet. A recent volume of the "Calendar of Patent Rolls," Edward III., 1354-8, gives an interesting and characteristic case. On March 1, 1354, a commission was issued to Hugh de Courtenay and others, on the complaint of John de Monte Acuto, who alleged that certain persons, including "Walter Gordoun," broke into his house at "Dertemouth," Devon, carried away his goods, and assaulted his men and servants, whereby he lost their services for a great time.

J. M. B.

A Sword of Honour.

I do not remember having ever seen a reference to the fact that Alexander Henry Gordon of Fyvie (1813-1884), of the Indian Navy, was once presented by Seyyid Said, Imaum of Muscat, with a Damascus blade, mounted to correspond as nearly as possible to the service blade of the Indian Navy. It was shown at the Empire of India Exhibition at Earl's Court in 1895 by Mr Archibald Gordon Pollock, now residing at the Old House, Mickleham, Dorking. Commander Gordon and Mr Gordon Pollock's father (Robert John Pollock, third son of Sir Frederick Pollock, 1st Bart.) married sisters, the daughters of Admiral Peter Douglas. The commander became god-father to Mr A. Gordon Pollock, who has continued the "Gordon" in the name of his second son, Mr Reginald Gordon Pollock, born 1888.

J. M. B.

Subpœna for General John Baxter.

Such is the title of an interesting document loaned me by Mr John Valentine, 81 High Street, Old Aberdeen, who purchased it with other articles at the sale of Dr Alexander Walker's books, on 5th May, 1903. It proceeds—

By James Andrew Sandilands, Esquire of Cruives, / Perpetual President of the Little Club and the / subscribing Members of that Convivial Institution.

Whereas much inconveniency and trouble have been occasioned to the Perpetual President and Members of this select Society by reason of the necessity which has hitherto existed of procuring by means of special invitation from the respective members whereof the attendance at the jovial sittings of the Club of John Baxter, Esquire, (12) heretofore a Captain in his Majesty's Land Forces, but now a Proprietor of a Tenement in Belmont Street and a General in the Devilmaking department of the useful art and sublime science of Cookery. To remedy therefore so great an evil, the said John Baxter is hereby ordered and required to attend properly equipped for the execution of his office and prepared with the stewing pans, pepper cruets, and sauces necessary for the discharge of his duty at all the convivial meetings of the Little Club at the place, and sharp at the hour specified in the printed circulars which will be regularly forwarded to him by the Perpetual President without any other or further notice, or to transmit to the foresaid Perpetual President in due time couched in proper language and legible penmanship a satisfactory excuse for his absence in case he should on any occasion be prevented from attending in his place, with a certificate that if he fail he will himself be played the Devil with. Given at the Royal Hotel in Belmont Street the tenth day of April, Eighteen Hundred and twenty nine.

John Forbes (1), A. Bannerman (2), A. Morrice (3), Al. Bannerman (4), Geo. Sangster (5), Thos. Bannerman (6), J. A. Sandilands, P.P.L.C. (7), Al. Lyall, V.P., (8) Ja. Blaikie, Secry. L.C. (9), A. Hay (10), Basil Fisher (11).

By the aid of local publications (chiefly the "Aberdeen Directory," 1828-29) I have been able to identify the whole of the twelve gentlemen above-mentioned thus—

1. John Forbes of Blackford; house, Union Terrace.

2. Alexander Bannerman, merchant, of the firm of Alexander and Thomas Bannerman, Marischal Street, Aberdeen.

3. Alexander Morrice, cashier of the Aberdeen Bank, 53 Castle Street, Aberdeen; house, 2 Marischal Street.

4. Sir Alexander Bannerman, M.P.; house, Union Street. See also "Aberdeen Journal 'Notes and Queries,' II., p. 163.

5. George Sangster, manufacturer, of the firm of Milne, Cruden, and Company; house, Union Street.

6. Thomas Bannerman, merchant, partner of Alexander and Thomas Bannerman, Marischal Street, Aberdeen; house, Union Street, Aberdeen.

7. James Andrew Sandilands of Cruives, advocate; house, 13 Belmont Street.

8. Alexander Lyall. This is undoubtedly Alexander Lyall, late Comptroller of Customs; house, 21 Dee Street. An Andrew Lyall (probably a son) was clerk to the Comptroller at the same period. He also resided at 21 Dee Street. Alexander Lyall's name is given as clerk to the Comptroller in 1835. (Aberdeen Almanac, 1835).

9. James Blaikie of Craigiebuckler, advocate, of the firm of Blaikie and Bannerman, 1 Long-Acre. He was Provost of Aberdeen, 1833-1836 (Munro's Provosts).

10. A. Hay: probably General Alexander Hay of Rannes.

11. Basil Fisher, a partner of the Devanha Brewery and Distillery, Aberdeen, whose premises originally were used as a paper mill, but the water was found too brackish. After a time the machinery was removed, and it formed the nucleus of the present Culter Paper Mills. In the Aberdeen Directory, 1830-31, the names of Major Basil, and William Fisher are given as residents of Devanha.

12. John Baxter, captain, 12th Regiment of Foot. He resided at Denburn Terrace, Aberdeen, 1828-29; and at 10 Belmont Street, Aberdeen, 1829-30, 1830-31.

Attached to the subpœna is a heraldic seal, whereof the first and fourth quarters contain a sceptre and sword in saltire, with an imperial crown within the upper corners, within an orle of eight thistles, slipped. The second and third contains the Keith arms, viz.—On a chief three

pallets, the supporters being two soldiers with spears in hand. The motto below is "Quæ Amissa Salva." The shield is surmounted by an earl's coronet.

Having "penned" the foregoing, I happened to mention the fact to an old printer. "Oh, yes!" he replied; "the man who could have told you about these convivialists was the late Mr George Walker, author of "Aberdeen Awa'." Now, this set me reading Walker's book again. Why did I forget that he tells about the club at page 365? But the circumstance I remembered was that I had purchased a copy of the book in 1897, the year in which it was published.

Now I find that the club was none other than the notorious "Hell-Fire Club," the cantrips of whose members were the source of considerable head-shaking among contemporary citizens, although the fun was greatly appreciated by the young bloods of the period.

Did the "Little Club" keep a minute book like the famous Maryculter Club? The history of the various convivial clubs connected with Aberdeen has yet to be written. Doubtless there were many, some of which had but a brief existence.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

Death of a Famous Parson.

Died at Lochee, on the 12th inst., after a short illness, Mr James Carse, in the 84th year of his age. He was by profession an itinerant preacher—a profession which he had followed for about sixty years, and until within two years of his death. Many of our readers will recollect his black cowl, and the expression of his mild and sedate countenance, as he held forth in our streets, perched on a projecting stair, or on some heap of stones or rubbish. He took regular journies every summer to the north, the south, and west of Scotland, most frequently on foot. He had at first been a preacher among the Wesleyan Methodists, but for many years had not been connected with any body of professing Christians. He was distinguished for a retentive memory—so much so, that he has been known to deliver to his audience out of doors almost verbatim the sermon which shortly before he had been hearing in the church. He possessed a cheerful disposition, was of sober habits, inoffensive in his conduct, and zealous and active in his calling. To the honour of Scotland be it said, there is not on record a single instance of interruption to the labours of this pious and primitive character, either arising from clerical intolerance or the levity of the populace. He has left a widow, in the 87th year of her age, with whom he lived in the married state for the long period of sixty-four years.—"Aberdeen Journal," February 23, 1825.

One-Rhyme Song.

Having been challenged to rhyme upon Auchtermuchty and Ecclefechan, I actually attempted both. Meanwhile the following will suffice. In my rambles through Scotland when a young man, I slept one night at Auchtermuchty. Here is the whimsey:—

AUCHTERMUCHTY.

PANEGYRIC ON THAT "KINGDOM" VILLAGE.

Oh, weel I lo'e oor ain toon,
The Brugh o' Auchtermuchty:
There's nane I've seen sae blythe, sae bein,
As canty Auchtermuchty.

Search a' ower Fife, whaur toons are rife—
Although it may be drauchty,
Ye winna find sae heich, sae kind,
A place as Auchtermuchty.

Frae ilka airt the win' can dairt
We get a caller waucht aye:
An' the Leverspool, sae clear an' cool,
Rins thro' auld Auchtermuchty.

The Ochils graun, the Firth's at haun,
Lumquhat, but no Drumtochty;
Fegs! Eden, too, is i' the view
Ye ha'e frae Auchtermuchty.

There, blest wi' health an' hamely wealth,
We leeve ayont the auchty;
Content an' ease, ane glegly sees,
Gang hame till Auchtermuchty.

Ochon! ochon for Doctor John!
His practice is but nochty,
For ailments a' are blawn awa'
Frae windy Auchtermuchty.

It's saxty year sin' I've been here;
Wi' lichtsum he'rt I've wrocht aye,
An' ne'er ha'e kent disease or want
In cannie Auchtermuchty.

The lassies there are frank an' fair,
The wyvies gash an' paughty,
As weel we ken frae auncient pen—
"Ye Wyffe o' Auchtermuchtie."*

An' blither chiels at ploys, bonspiels,
Sae social an' sae dochty,
My certie me! ye winna see
As we've in Auchtermuchty.

* The title of a very droll ballad (17 verses) preserved in the Bannatyne Manuscript of 1568, and first published by Allan Ramsay in his "Evergreen," 1724. The authorship is ascribed to "Schir John Moffit," a priest like Dunbar, and probably a contemporary and familiar friend of that great bard. "John Grumlie," a popular Scottish song, is a modern adaptation of the olden ditty.

I've been in Edinbro', Strevelin', Perth,
I've seen Dindee an' Brouchty;
They may be braw, but cauldrife a'
Are they tae Auchtermuchty.

The bodies there reenge late an' ear'
Wi' faces prood an' hauchty;
They geck an' snarl at ony carle
Like me, frae Auchtermuchty.

Ye'd think that de'ils wir at their heels,
They're sae byord'nar' flochty:
That's no the way we meet ilk day
In couthie Auchtermuchty.

We kindly spier for ony fier—
The sneeshin'-mull is socht aye;
Syne in some howff the stoups we gowff
Aboot in Auchtermuchty.

Oh, leeze me on oor ain toon,
Auld-farrant Auchtermuchty!
An' may he hang wha wishes wrang
Or skaith tae Auchtermuchty!

ALBA.

Essendon.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1864.

12th February. At Bonchurch, Clara, wife of John Gordon of Cluny, and daughter of the late Rev. James White of Bonchurch, Isle of Wight.

11th February. At Manse of Foveran, aged 21, William, eldest son of Rev. William S. Watt.

7th February. At Techmuiry, Mr George Gray, at the advanced age of 99. Deceased's issue numbered in all ninety-six—seven sons, four daughters, forty-one grandchildren, and forty-four great-grandchildren.

15th February. At Milliken, Renfrew, Henry Ogg, Distiller, Aberdeen.

4th February. At his residence, Ryde, Isle of Wight, Benjamin Abernethie Gordon, Esq., late of Balbithan, aged 82.

11th February. At Peterhead, Isabella Ross, widow of Mr James Reid, lawyer, aged 89.

13th March. At Elmfield Thomas Hogarth, aged 58.

22nd March. At Haddo House, George, Earl of Aberdeen, in his 48th year.

12th April. At Millbank, Hardgate, Commander James Saunders, R.N., aged 57.

9th April. At Keith, Dr Alexander Bremner, aged 73.

5th April. At Mill of Crathes, Elizabeth Fairnie, relict of Charles Henderson, shipowner, Aberdeen.

23rd April. At Old Aberdeen, in her 80th year, Helen, eldest daughter of the late Alexander Burnett, Esq. of Kemnay, and widow of Dr James Bannerman, son of Sir Alexander Bannerman of Elsick, Bart.

5th May. At Belmont House, Jessy Ann, daughter of Alexander Flockhart, Advocate, Aberdeen.

9th May. At 1 Crown Terrace, Helen Forbes, relict of James Anderson, Banker, Peterhead, in her 88th year.

15th May. At the Schoolhouse, Tarves, George Melvin, M.A., Parochial Schoolmaster.

5th May. At the Manse, Rafford, Rev. Hugh Mackintosh, aged 51.

14th May. At 4 Castle Street, Edinburgh, Captain Burnett of Monboddo, Kincardineshire.

20th May. At Keithfield, Tarves, Alexander Mann, in the 111th year of his age.

18th June. At Ashgrove, Rachel Gray, aged 43, wife of James Littlejohn, merchant.

16th June. At Esslemont House, Charles Napier Gordon, Esq. of Hallhead and Esslemont, in his 53rd year.

18th June. At Balhaggardy, Margaret Cruickshank, wife of Robert Mairland, aged 40 years.

24th June. At Chanonry, Old Aberdeen, Mary Gavin, wife of Rev. Alexander Anderson, aged 57.

6th July. At Elrick House, Mary Ann, wife of Peter Burnet of Elrick.

16th July. At 17 Albyn Place, Captain Alexander Dingwall Fordyce, R.N., of Culsh and Brucklay.

14th July. At the Free Church Manse, Echt, Margaret Grant, wife of Rev. D. Mackay, and eldest daughter of Alexander Gibb, Willowbank.

23th July. At the Free Church Manse, Cluny, Rev. David Simpson, of Free Trinity Church, Aberdeen, in his 70th year.

30th July. At the Old Manse, Fintray, in her 73th year, Catherine Harvey, widow of Mr John Crombie, manufacturer, Cothal Mills.

27th July. At Southampton, Alexander Henderson, Lieutenant, R.N., youngest son of Dr W. Henderson of Caskieben.

9th August. At 146 Crown Street, Mr James Leslie, Shipowner.

13th August. At Springbank, Dee Street, Margaret Smith, relict of John Galen, Esq., M.D. [She was third daughter of Rev. Dr Alexander Smith, minister of Chapel of Garioch.]

14th August. At Old Deer, William Gall, M.D., in his 25th year.

12th August. At 37 Charles Street, Berkeley Square, London, the Hon. Mrs Ferguson [Elizabeth Jane, eldest daughter of Clotworthy, first Lord Langford, and wife of Admiral Ferguson of Pitfour.]

16th August. At the Manse, Rathen, Mary, wife of Rev. John F. M. Cock.

12th August. At Boulogne-sur-Mer, aged 86, Charlotte, widow of James Dingwall Fordyce, Esq.

1st September. At Ellon, Mary Jane Rae, wife of George F. Raeburn, bank agent, there, aged 31.

8th September. At Gibston, Huntly, George M'Pherson, Esq., aged 55.

11th September. At the Free Church Manse, Huntly, Catherine Charlotte Robertson, wife of Rev. Henry M. Williamson, aged 28.

12th September. At Stonehaven, William Robert Tindal, Esq., Joint Procurator-Fiscal of Kincardineshire, aged 43.

2nd October. At Aden, Mrs Russel of Aden.

8th October. At the Free Church Manse, Rayne, Margaret Munson, wife of Rev. William Brown.

14th October. At All Saints', Woodhead, Fyvie, Mary Garioch Skinner, wife of the Very Rev. Dean Wilson, aged 58 years.

23rd October. At her house, 9 Golden Square, Miss L[uckin] Norwich Gordon, [youngest] daughter of the late Samuel Gordon C[umming] Skene of Pitlurg and Dyce.

30th October. At Dalury Cottage, Inverury, Mary Morison, relict of Rev. Robert Lessel, Minister of Inverury, aged 81.

27th October. At Manse of Kemnay, Barbara Barclay, relict of John Peter, Esq., Canterland, in her 80th year.

2nd November. At 1 King Street, James Westland, Esq., Manager of the North of Scotland Banking Company, in his 63rd year.

11th November. At 3 Dee Place, George Abernethy, Esq., C.E., aged 82.

15th November. At 33 Summer Street, Alexander Forbes, Esq., youngest son of the late Charles Forbes, Esq. of Auchernach, aged 77.

9th December. At Castlehill, Aberdeen, Mary [Grassick] Spence, widow of Rev. William Spence, Minister of Glenbucket, aged 90 years.

9th December. At Bloomfield Cottage, Agnes Lawrie, widow of Rev. George Alexander Simpson, late of Fyvie [?Tyrie], aged 67.

9th December. At Menie House, General Sir George Turner, K.C.B.

20th December. At Carnaveron, Elizabeth Murray, relict of Peter M'Combie, Esq. of Lynturk [aged 72].

25th December. At the Schoolhouse, Lumphanan, Fanny Farquharson Scivwright, wife of Rev. John Smith, Schoolmaster, aged 33.

Queries.

527. The Lords Forbes and "The Bush of Kaitness."—It is stated by Mr William Forbes on p. 3 of the preface to his continuation of Matthew Lumsden's Genealogy of the Family of Forbes "that from the year 1371 till Flowdonne in the year 1513, the said Lord Forbes had the whole guiding of His Maj'tie's affairs, betwixt the Cairne of Mount and the Bush of Kaitness." What is meant by "the Bush of Kaitness"?

W. Lachlan Forbes.

528. William Forbes of Edinglassie and the Covenanters.—William Forbes of Edinglassie, second son of William Forbes of Skellater, "was a devoted and steady Royalist, in so much that the Covenanters set a price of three thousand merks upon his head. He was surprised in the wood of Dalhandie, in Strathdon, and there killed by a party that belonged to a troop of horse which the Lord Forbes's eldest son commanded. His cairn remains there to this day." This may have taken place either in February, 1656, or in 1717, some MSS. giving the earlier and some the later date. The cairn still marks the spot where William fell, and it is stated in a pamphlet at Invernan—"There is mention of the murder by the Covenanters in one of the old chronicles in the library at Aberdeen." Can any reader tell me where I can find an authentic account of this episode; give me any trace of the chronicle alluded to; or the authority from whom this high reward would have been claimed?

W. Lachlan Forbes.

529. Hays of Monkshill.—In 1737 Monkshill, Fyvie, was sold to James Hay, factor to the Earl of Aberdeen, whose son, James Hay of Monkshill, in 1823, left certain funds for behoof of the Episcopal Church of Woodhead, Fyvie. To what branch did these Hays belong?

J. W.

530. Forbes of Corse.—In a Gordon pedigree at Pitfour known as the Mitchell MS., it is stated that Admiral William Gordon (1705-1769), of the Artloch family, married as his second wife "Miss Elizabeth Forbes, daughter of Corse, his own cousin," who died at Banff on March 17, 1794. How was she his cousin? It is true that the Admiral's daughter Margaret (died 1841) married James Forbes of Sauton.

J. M. Bulloch.

Answers.

502. The Bannerman Family and Frendraught.—The Bannerman family were only lessees of Frendraught from its proprietors, the Morisons of Bognie (see Temple's "Thanage of Fermartyn," pp. 154-61).

A. B.

514. Gordon Relatives Wanted.—A correspondent obligingly communicates the fact that a long account respecting William Gordon, advocate, and his father, Rev. George Gordon, appeared in the "Huntly Express" of July 5, 1907, from the pen of the Gordon historian, Mr J. M. Bulloch.

Editor.

515. John Humphrey of Comaleggie.—Mr John Humphrey was the son of Rev. Alexander Humphrey, minister of Fordyce. He married Eliza Milne, and died December, 1876. Nellfield Cemetery registers will afford information as to the decease of various members of his family. He was a Justice of the Peace, and probably established a record in his occupancy of the bench.

A.

No. 124.—August 31, 1910.

Aberdeenshire Justices of Peace in 1634.

The Lord Chancellor.
The Archbishop of St Andrews.
The Lord Treasurer.
The Lord Privy Seal.
The Lords of Council and Session.
The Marquis of Huntly.
The Earl of Dunfermline.
The Bishop of Aberdeen.
The Bishop of Moray.
The Lord Forbes.
The Lord Pitsligo.
The Lord Fraser.
The Master of Forbes.
Sir Alexander Irvine of Drum.
Sir Alexander Gordon of Cluny.
Sir William Forbes of Monymusk.
Thomas Crombie of Kennay.
Thomas Erskine of Balhaggardy.
Robert Gordon of Straloch.
Sir George Johnston of that ilk.
John Leslie of Balquhain.
John Leslie, younger of Pitcaple.
John Forbes of Leslie.
Alexander Seaton of Pitmedden.
James Crichton of Frendraught.
William Seaton of Meldrum.
Patrick Maitland of Auchincreive.
John Gordon, younger of Buckie.
Alexander Udny of Ochterellon.
— Turing of Foveran.
John Seaton of Minnes.
William Forbes of Tolquhon.
Walter Forbes of Thainston
George Gordon, younger of Gight.
Sir William Keith of Ludquharn.
John Keith of Clackriach.
Alexander Fraser, younger of Philorth.
Thomas Fraser, younger of Strichen.
John Hay of Crimonmogate.
Robert Irvine of Fedderate.
Alexander Keith of Balmure.
James Buchan of Auchmacoy.
Donald Farquharson of Monaltrie.
Robert Farquharson of Finzean.
William Coutts, younger of Auchtertool.
Alexander Skene of Skene.
George Gordon younger, of Tillihoudie.
Alexander Abercromby of Pitmedden.
Patrick Leith of Whitehaugh.
Magnus Mowat of Balquholly.
Walter Barclay of Towie.
George Baird of Auchmedden.
Sir Alexander Hay of Delgaty.
Sir James Gordon, elder of Lesmoir.
Sir William Forbes of Craigievar.
James Cheyne of Arnage.
William Seaton of Schethin.
Alexander Strachan of Glenkindie.
John Gordon of Innermarkie.
George Gordon of Coclarachie.
Patrick Urquhart of Lethenty.
William Seaton of Udny.
Robert Bisset of Lessendrum.
— Meldrum of Hilton.
Alexander Lyon of Muirsk.
Rev. David Lindsay, minister of Belhelvie.
Rev. John Ross, minister of Birse.
Rev. Adam Barclay, minister at Alford.
Rev. William Strachan, minister of Daviot.
Rev. Thomas Mitchell, minister at Turriff.
Rev. Thomas Reres, minister at Lonmay.
Rev. Patrick Guthrie, minister at Logybuchan.
Rev. Robert Hamilton, parson of Botarie.
Rev. William Milne, parson of Glass.
Rev. William Douglas, minister at Forgue.

Midsummer Fires.

The ancient practice of kindling bonfires upon Midsummer Eve seems to have had a heathen origin. Suppression followed the advent of the Reformation, but the custom died hard. On 3rd July, 1608, Provost Alexander Rutherford, Gilbert Keith of Auchiries ("a commoun banner and swerar"), Maister Thomas Mengzeis, baillie, and several other residenters in Aberdeen, were summoned before the kirk-session on the charge of setting, or having "on a fyre on the calsey before their yetts on Midsymmer Evin" bypast "agains the lawis of the cuntrie, fostering thairby superstitioun."

On the hill of Cairnshea, Durris, it has been customary, from time immemorial, to have a Midsummer fire. A herd, who had tended his flocks on the hill and enjoyed the bonfire sport, went to London, where he entered into mercantile business. In 1787 he left to Durris £500, directing 10s of the interest therefrom to be given annually to the herds around the hill to make the fire.

Rhymes.

(Continued from No. 74—Vol. II., 266.)

ON TIME.

A relative of mine in Glenbuchat has a very old jug bearing the following lines:—

Time was is past, thou canst not it recall:
Time is thou hast, employ the portion small:
Time future is not and may never be;
Time present is the only time for thee.

A FARM DISTICH.

The following is applicable to the farming interest:—

"Man to the plough,
Wife to the sow,
Boy to the flail,
Girl to the pail,
And your gains will be netted.

But man Tallyho,
Miss, piano,
Boy, Greek and Latin,
Wife, silk and satin,
And you will soon be gazetted."

ABERDEEN PROVOSTS.

For twenty lang years in oor braif toon,
Its affairs were maistly ruled by A Broon;
Or ane o' the Haddens wore the croon,
And when Gavin gaed up, then Jamie cam' doon.

For particulars of the Provostship of Alexander Brown, Gavin Hadden, and James Hadden see Mr A. M. Munro's "Lord Provosts," and the late Mr George Walker's entertaining work, "Aberdeen Awa'," both published in 1897.

AIKEY FAIR.

Aikey Fair on Aikey Brae,
Is held on the shortest nicht
And the langest day.

For an interesting account of Aikey Fair see Dr John Milne's article, vol. II., p. 225-226.

GLEN DOLL.

Glen Doll is a narrow glen up among the Grampians at the head of Clova, in Forfarshire. There is an old rhyme that says:—

No wonder though the maidens o' the Doll be dun
For frae Michaelmas to Candlemas they never see the sun.

ON RAIN.

There is an old saying—

Rainy, rainy, rattlestanes,
Dinna rain on me;
Rain on John o' Groat's hoose,
Far ower the sea.

EGG RHYME.

To those who would steal eggs there is a warning thus—

Wee, wee, wee, wee,
Look at my eggies, but let them be,
Or else ye'll be hanged on a high, high tree,
Or drooned in the deep, deep sea.

TRUTH.

In order to convince your hearer that your tale is authentic, this old saying is added—

Sure as death,
Cut my breath,
Ten miles below the earth.

A COUNTING RHYME.

When engaged in the game of tackie, youngsters repeat—

Eeetle, ottle,
Blue bettle,
Eetle, ottle, out.

A MINISTERIAL RHYME.

By our preacher perplexed,
How shall we determine?
Watch and pray, says the text,
Go to sleep, says the sermon.

In bygone days no such thing as a short sermon was looked for.

ON CROWS.

When annoyed by crows—

Craw, craw,
Yer mither's awa'
For peother an' lead
Tae sheet ye a'.

THE SPIDER.

"If you wish to live and thrive,
Let a spider run alive."

From a manuscript collection belonging to Mr William J. Thoms.

THE TARLAND FOLK.

The Essons, the Kessons, the Massons, the Dawsons,
Deil sheet's —— mell amo' them,
An' kill as mony wi' the shaft as the heid.

This is an old saying which has had a long survival in Tarland.

TIBBIE NICOL.

A domestic inquiry runs—

Traycle in a bowlie,
Seerup in a cup,
Hey, Tibbie Nicol,
Is yer rhubarb up?

AN OLD SAYING.

"The gravest fish is an oyster,
The gravest bird is an owl,
The gravest beast is an ass,
And the gravest man is a fool."

Never to laugh and always to wear a grave face is no proof of wisdom.

A MARRIAGE SUPERSTITION.

A quaint superstition in regard to marriage is that if a lady marries a man whose name begins with the same letter as her own maiden name, she will be unlucky:—

Change the name, but not the letter,
Change for the worse, and not the better.

This misfortune, however, says Rev. Lauchlan MacLean Watt in the "Scotsman," of 19th February, 1910, has compensation, for the unlucky lady may bring luck to others, as she is enabled to cure ailments. Whooping-cough is one of these. When, therefore, the old but arduous prescription of hauling the sick through three parishes in one day turned out to be ineffectual, the invalid was taken off to a lady who happened to be of the above matrimonial category, and whatever she gave the child to eat conveyed a cure with it.

ON MARRIAGE.

Happy is the wooing
That is not long a-doing.

Also,

Happy is the bride that the sun shines on;
Blessed are the dead that the rain rains on.

ON PUDDINGS.

A rhyme current seventy years ago runs—

White puddings and long,
Blood puddings and short,
Boil'd puddings and raw,
Mingle, mingle, mingled.

ON COOKING.

An Aberdeen variant has—

The hindmost word the haddock spak'
Was "Roast my belly before my back."

ON MEAL.

A northern example has—

Tak' a lick oot o' this wifie's pyock,
An' a lick oot o' that wifie's pyock,
An' ane frae the miller,
An' anither frae his man,
An' a lap oot o' the dam,
Syne gallopin', gallopin', gallopin', ower
the hills an' hame again.

BERE MEAL ON DONSIDE.

About the end of the eighteenth century there were "bad years," and it is told that the meal mill in Upper Cabrach never went round, there being nothing to grind. Hence the rhyme:—

"The year Ninety-Three
We got meal frae the sea,
The year Ninety-Five
We began a' to thrive."

NOCHTY SHARGERS.

A sharger is a person stunted in growth. There is an old adage current in the Cabrach district as follows:—

"Cabrach cutties,
Glenbucket budies,
Nochty shargers,
And Strathdon men."

Cabrach is a district near the head of the Deveron; while Nochty is a glen in Strathdon.

ORD'S CIRCUS.

A Deskryside rhyme, current 1870, on two men who sold eggs privately to raise funds to attend Ord's great circus runs—

Foggieson and Davidson,
They joined in one accord.
An' sell't their eggs to Jimmy Tam.
An' ran awa' to Ord.

A native tells me there is another rhyme applicable to the locality (current 1864), which perpetuates four natives, thus—

John Begg, Jock Bettie,
Jock Macdougall, Skirlin' Eppie

Eppie was the henwife of the Dochery. She collected hens for the laird, Sir Charles Forbes, grandfather of the present Sir Charles Stewart Forbes.

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.
Member of the Rymour Club, Edinburgh.

The Gordons of Cairnfield.

Mr J. M. Bulloch continues with unabated vigour his literary labours in explicating the tangled history of the Gordons. In the "Banffshire Herald," Keith; "Banffshire Reporter," Portsoy; and "Huntly Express," Huntly, as well as two other newspapers, he is running weekly articles which treat of different branches of the ancient clan. The work is prosecuted on systematic lines, which historians of family history generally might advantageously follow.

Mr Bulloch has just had privately printed an edition of fifty copies of a pamphlet of 67 pages dealing with the Gordons of Cairnfield and their hold on the lands of Echres, Auchinhalrig, Ardneidlie, Cufurracn, Mayne, Myrieton, Coynach, Whitburn, Lunan, Briggs, Arradoul and Rosieburn. A perusal of the work confirms the assertion made in the opening paragraph that the possession of land is nearly always precarious. It has certainly been so in the case of Cairnfield, which, although in the possession of the Gordons for the last three centuries, has had its ownership represented by three distinct branches of the great family, as follows:—

(1) 1615-67. Buckie Gordons (descended from Jock Gordon of Scurdargue); i.e., the son and grandson of the second laird of Buckie. The line came to grief from incompetency, though not impotency.

(2) 1667-1721. Letterfourie Gordons (descended from the second Earl of Huntly). This line of Cairnfield owners founded by Robert Gordon, son of the second laird of Letterfourie, began with nothing, and acquired Echres, Mayne, Ardneidlie, Auchinhalrig, Cuiurrach, and Myrieton, before possessing Cairnfield. It ended in bankruptcy.

(3) 1721-1910. The ownership reverted to the Buckie Gordons, by a younger son who owned Arradoul, and his illegitimate son, who owned Lunan; a son of this line marrying a woman of the second line.

The booklet is furnished with a complete genealogical tree, while extracts explanatory of the outstanding features in the career of each proprietor, are given from Cramond's "Annals of Banff," "Church of Rathven," "Church of Ordiquhill," Dr Littlejohn's "Aberdeenshire Sheriff Court Records," Dr Hew Scott's "Fasti," Laing's "Donean Tourist," Gordon's "Chronicles of Keith," "Acts and Decreets," "Great Seal Register," "Privy Council Register," "Elgin Commissary Register," Balbithan MS., etc. One can seldom find in like succinct form such a mass of information regarding Banffshire properties, while those interested in Aberdeenshire will appreciate the references to the Gordons of Coynach, Lonmay, Auchmull, and Knockespock, as also the notes on the Thomsons of Faichfield, Bissets of Lessendrum, Strachans of Glenkindy, etc.

Lord Kintore's Big Ox.

This extraordinary animal was slaughtered on Tuesday by Mr Rogers, butcher, Crown Street, and on Wednesday and Thursday the enormous carcase was exhibited to the public, a shilling each being charged for admittance. The gross weight of the animal was 28cwt., and the following are the details:—Beef, of excellent quality, 21cwt. 3qrs., 18lbs.; tallow, 231lbs.; entrails, 126lbs.; hide, 115lbs.; blood, 84lbs.; head and feet, 64lbs.; heart and liver, 43lbs.; tongue, 14lbs.; kidney collop, 5lbs. We have heard that a considerable proportion of the beef has been sold at from 1s to 2s per lb.—"Aberdeen Journal," October 22, 1834.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1865.

5th January. At 12 Carden Place, Marion, wife of James Wyllie, Bookseller in Aberdeen.

13th January. At the Manse, Fordyce, Rev. John Innes.

8th January. At Easter Sluie, Kincardine O'Neil, John Ogg, aged 100 years and 2 months.

24th January. At School of Kildrummy, Rev. William Christie, for 52 years Schoolmaster of that parish.

3rd February. At 7 Union Place, Aberdeen, Catherine Badenach, daughter of the late James Badenach, Esq. of Whiteriggs.

16th February. At 247 Union Street, Aberdeen, William Williamson, M.D.

25th February. At the Manse, Dunblane, Eliza Gordon, eldest daughter of the late Rev. William Ingram, Minister of Echt.

6th March. At 66 Spital, Convener Milne, aged 83.

29th March. At Croughly, aged 87, Helen M'Gregor, sister of Mrs Grant, and fourth daughter of the late Captain Robert M'Gregor of Delavorar.

14th April. At Leamington, Caroline Elizabeth, relict of George Fairholme, Esq. of Greenknowe, Berwickshire, and daughter of James Ochonchar, Lord Forbes, in her 72nd year.

21st April. At Florence, Mrs Mary Phelps, relict of Major Henry Phelps, and youngest daughter of the late Robert Grant, Esq. of Druminnor.

29th April. At the Free Church Manse, Longside, Euphemia M'Lean, wife of Rev. Thomas L. Wilson.

30th April. At the Manse Edinkillie, Rev. Peter Ferries, in his 70th year.

16th May. At Crown Court, Aberdeen, Duncan Reid, M.D., in his 61st year.

7th June. At Aberdeen, Margaret Abercrombie, widow of Andrew Jopp, Esq. of Elmhill, Advocate in Aberdeen, in her 86th year.

8th June. At the Free Church Manse, Rhynie, Margaret Lillie, wife of Rev. Alexander Mackay [LL.D., and father of "Mackay of Uganda"], aged 39.

6th June. Elizabeth Mary Forbes, eldest daughter of the late John Forbes, Esq. of Watertoune.

3rd June. At the U.P. Manse, Savoch of Deer, Rev. John Hunter, in his 62nd year.

10th June. At Auchintoul House, the Hon. Louisa Duff, widow of Garden Duff, Esq. of Hatton.

25th June. At Bellfield, Banchory-Ternan, William James Adams, Esq., Surgeon, eldest son of the late Francis Adams, Esq., M.D., LL.D.

25th June At Whitehouse, Tullynessle, suddenly, Dr Mitchell.

27th June. At New Pitsligo, aged 79, Mr John Duncan, lately crofter, Tillimmolt, and well known throughout Buchan as an astronomer, mathematician, orator, and violinist.

21st July. At Ardenville, Woodside, Dr Gilchrist.

18th July. At Binghill, Colonel Kyle, late of the 26th Cameronians, formerly of the old 94th Regiment, or Scots Brigade, in his 76th year.

28th July. At 12 Correction Wynd, Dr James Ledingham, aged 24.

28th July. At the Manse, Rathven, Rev. James Crichton, minister of Rathven, in his 40th year.

3rd August. At Hilton House, Sir William Bacon Johnston of that Ilk, and of Hilton, Bart., aged 59.

15th August. At the Manse, Old Aberdeen, Mary Curzon Molison, wife of Rev. Dr Smith, minister of Old Machar, in her 72nd year.

19th August. At Aberdeen, William Gibson, Esq. of Kinmundy, Skene, aged 64.

3rd September. At Kintore, Jessie Gordon, widow of Rev. John Robertson, late of Gartly.

31st August. At Rothes, A. D. Wright, Esq., Parochial Schoolmaster of Rothes, aged 40.

17th September. At Wester Elchies, James William Grant, Esq. of Wester Elchies, aged 77.

24th September. At Ballater, in her 85th year, Isabella Gordon, widow of Rev. James Paterson, M.A., Midmar.

20th September. At the Manse, Cluny, Rev. Alexander Ramage, Minister of that parish.

28th September. At Edinburgh, Anne Maria, last surviving daughter of George Auldjo, Esq. of Portlethen, and wife of James Jamieson, M.D., aged 75.

31st August. At Poona, Alexander Kinloch Forbes, Esq., one of the Judges of H.M. High Court of Bombay and youngest son of the late John Forbes Mitchell, Esq. of Thainston.

18th October At Aberdeen, Miss Elizabeth Russel, daughter of the late Thomas Russel, Esq., of Rathen, aged 82.

6th November. At Banchory Lodge, Lieutenant-Colonel William Burnett Ramsay of Banchory Lodge, aged 44.

3rd November. At 60 Dee Street, Mrs James W. Barclay [Jane Smith].

5th November. At the Schoolhouse, Glenbucket, William Reid, Schoolmaster, aged 47.

17th November. At 21 Rubislaw Terrace, Jane Amelia Smith, wife of William B. Ferguson, secretary of the Deeside Railway Company.

27th November. At New Farm, Keig, Rev. Charles Norrie, for upwards of forty years Parochial Schoolmaster of Insch.

Queries.

531. Morrison Gordon.—He was the son of William Gordon, Elgin, and was at Marischal College in 1830. Was this William a son of the Rev. Harry Gordon of Ardersier, who married Sarabella Morison, daughter of the Rev. Walter Morison, Deskford? What became of Morrison Gordon?

J. M. B.

532. Picheedlie.—On October 18, 1658, Fordyce and others renounced the lands of Picheedlie in favour of Harry Gordon of Farskane. Where is Picheedlie? On August 20, 1665, Harrie Gordon of Farskane, and his wife, Marie Ogilvie, had sasine on Farskane, Cruets, and Greencastle ("Banffshire Sasines"). On January 29, 1668, William Gordon "at Invers of Strathbogie" had sasine on the lands of Farskane (Ibid). This William was the son of John Gordon II. of Artloch and a cadet of Cairnburrow.

J. M. Bulloch.

533. Hangman's Brae, Aberdeen.—Where was Hangman's Brae, and from what circumstance was the title applied?

A. B.

534. The Garvock Tracts.—Are any copies now in existence of the tracts against Papistry as printed and published by Rev. John Charles, Garvock?

W. B.

535. P. M. Cran.—Wanted, the date of death of Mr P. M. Cran, who was city chamberlain of Aberdeen, and a prominent member of the New Spalding Club.

Alba.

[Mr Peter M'Leod Cran, died at 70 Hamilton Place, Aberdeen, on 8th December, 1903, aged 63.—Ed.].

Answers.

505. William Suther.—I find his name entered in the Trinity College, Glenalmond, "School List," page 62, as William King Suther, attended college 1859-62; lieutenant Royal Highlanders; deceased. An Aberdeen gentleman tells me that he went abroad, and died before 1890.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

511. St Peter's Church.—In James Gordon's chart of the two towns called Aberdeen, the ruins of the church are shown, with two towers at the east end. Probably these were meant to give the building a church-like look. There is no trace of them now, but the foundations of the church itself, about 72 feet by 22, are still to be seen in the west end of St Peter's Cemetery. In the east end of the church area is the family tomb of the Moirs of Scotston.

St Peter's Hospital was founded by Bishop Matthew Kynninmond (1172-1199) for infirm brethren of the Cathedral staff of clerics. The brethren had to say prayers for the souls of the founder and others mentioned in the foundation charter, and there must have been a chapel in connection with the hospital and likewise a burying-ground. The hospital was well endowed, and additions had been made to its revenues by bequests of yearly payments from properties made by persons who wished to be buried in the churchyard and have annual masses said for their souls. In 1427 the hospital was suppressed, and the chapel became a parish church. Part of the revenues of the hospital were taken to support two chaplains to officiate alternately on Sundays in the Cathedral and in the church, and to discharge the obligations in regard to soul masses. Probably at this time had been built the church whose foundations are still visible. The church got also the rents of the whole kirk town in which the hospital was situated, and as the hospital is described in the foundation charter as being in Aberdeen, it seems to have been called the Church of Aberdeen. Under this name it is mentioned in a Bull ascribed to Pope Adrian and dated in 1157. Strangely, Orem, Kennedy, and Robertson thought that the kirk town bestowed on St Peter's Church was in Old Aberdeen. Adrian's Bull pretends to have been granted in 1157, but it mentions as belonging to the Cathedral the Church of Aberdeen, which was not instituted till 1427. The chapel whose place it took could not have been erected before 1172. The Bull must be a forgery, and this is confirmed by other erroneous statements contained in the Bull.

At the Reformation the Church of St Peter was suppressed, and its revenues fell to the Crown. They were given to King's College by James VI., who ordered the church to be taken down to prevent people from frequenting it

and saying their prayers there as they had done before.

Further information regarding St Peter's church and parish will be found in a book on Aberdeen, now in the process of printing.

John Milne, LL.D.

[The new work referred to in the above concluding paragraph is entitled "Aberdeen": Topographical, Antiquarian, and Historical Papers on the Royal Burgh of Aberdeen and the Ecclesiastical City of Aberdeen, by John Milne, LL.D., to be published, by subscription, in one volume, 11in. by 7in., uniform with Munro's "Provosts of Aberdeen," p p. 300, price 7s 6d net. Than Dr Milne there is no better authority on the ancient history of the city, and the results of his lengthened investigations will be welcomed in book form.—Ed.]

513. Forbes.—The name of the Patron Saint of Forbes, if it had been preserved, would probably be found in a charter conveying a bit of land "to God and Saint ——— and the Church of ———," but it is not mentioned in the "Collections on the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff" on p. 603, where Forbes is treated of, or in "Antiquities of the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff,' pp. 371, 760. It is therefore unlikely that his name has been recorded. The place-name Forbes means cattle-fold, and the personal name Forbes had been given to an inhabitant of a hamlet at a cattle-fold when he went to live at some other place. Thus there might be many different families of the name from one fold, and, moreover, there might have been several folds named Forbes. Etymologically, the letter "e" is superfluous in the name, and the English way of pronouncing it as a monosyllable is right.

John Milne, LL.D.

No. 125.—September 7, 1910.

Balgownie.

It is nearly a hundred years since Byron, in his "Don Juan," brought under the world's notice the proverb about Balgownie brig—

"As 'Auld Lang Syne' brings Scotland one and all,
Scotch plaids, Scotch snoods, the blue hills, and clear streams,
The Dee, the Don, Balgownie's brig's black wall," etc.

To which he added the foot note—

"The Brig of Don, near the Auld Town of Aberdeen, with its one arch and its black, deep salmon stream below, is in my memory as yesterday. I still remember, though I may misquote, the awful proverb which made me pause to cross it, and yet lean over it with a childish delight, being an only son, at least by the mother's side. The saying, as recollected by me, was this, but I have never heard or seen it since I was nine years of age—

"Brig o' Balgownie, black's your wa',
Wi' a wife's ae son and a mere's ae foal.
Doun ye shall fa'!"

Whether the quotation as his lordship's memory preserved it be right or wrong, his version has formed the orthodox reading till this day. The brig, too, is still in its original situation, and the only change is that whereas in the poet's time it was the only link between the Burgh and Balgownie, there is now another viaduct, that known as the new bridge, giving an additional access to the estate.

The title of the estate has undergone many changes from Polgouny, Balgony, Balgownie, Cairnfeidell, Cairnfield, Fraserfield, to now again Balgownie.

William Lyon is named as proprietor in 1511 (Spalding Club "Antiquities," III., 153). In, or before, 1550, the property passed into the possession of William Auchinleck of Schethin, who had it formed into an independent barony, in which he got included his half lands of Fyngase, with the half of the boat in the port of Pettindrum (Ibid. IV., 667). He granted a lease in life-rent of the sunny half lands of Westfield to Robert Lumsden of Clova, who, on 23rd June, 1584, secured a decree of removing against a sub-tenant. Before this, however, the proprietorship was in the hands of George Auchinleck of Balunamno, President of the Supreme Court, who, through the influence of his uncle, the Regent Morton, secured a grant to the salmon fishings at the mouth of the Don. This (says Mr A. M. Munro, in his sketch of the "Common Good") was considered a direct infringement of the rights of the town and their feuars of the salmon fishings; and, though proceedings were instituted at once, little progress was made towards a settlement for several years. On Morton's downfall, the council took a bolder step, however, than appealing to the law courts, by presenting a petition to the young King while he was staying at Dunnottar. At a meeting of the Privy Council held there on 22nd June, 1580, the right of the town and their feuars was acknowledged, and a revocation of Auchinleck's grant of the salmon fishings was pronounced. Auchinleck having died, his widow, Jean Erskyne (before 1603 she was married to John Leslie of Balquhain as her second husband), had her terce awarded out of various lands, including two parts of Balgowney, Murcour, Wastfield, Kethaksmilne, and Wakmilne of same (New Spalding Club's "Sheriff Court Records," II., 32).

Prior to September, 1611, Thomas Menzies, son of Gilbert Menzies, and grandson of Gilbert Menzies (Banison Gib) of Pitfodels, became proprietor. On 18th June, 1613, he secured a Crown Charter in his favour, and, on 7th August thereafter, received an acknowledgment and obligation that John Lumsden, the tenant of Balgownie, would pay as rent for crop 1612 "tua chalders beir and twentie sex bolls meill" (Ibid. 196). He died before 1632, when his widow (Janet Gordon, daughter of the laird of Abergeldie), as liferentrix, successfully prosecuted an action of removing against Gilbert Still, tenant in Murcor (Ibid. 355). Thomas Menzies, the eldest son, succeeded.

About 1670 Balgownie was acquired by Richard Irvine, son of John Irvine of Artamford, who was the fifth son of Alexander Irvine, laird of Drum, through his marriage with Lady Elizabeth Keith. Irvine, who altered the name to Cairnfeidell, and thereafter to Cairnfield, married Margaret Aedie, and died 4th July, 1703, aged 77. His remains were interred at St Fergus, where a curiously ornamented tombstone has a brief inscription describing him as "the devot and learned gentilman, Mr Richard Irvine of Cairnfield." (See "Aberdeenshire Epitaphs and Inscriptions," I., p. 229.)

Alexander Gray next appears as owner, and in 1707 a Crown Charter of the lands was granted to John, Lord Gray.* By Disposition, dated 2nd and 8th March, 1721, "John Lord Gray, and John, Master of Gray, his eldest lawful son, with consent of . . . Mrs of Gray, spouse to the said John, Master of Gray," conveyed to and "in favour of Mr William Fraser, advocate [second] son to the deceast William [eleventh] Lord Saltoun," the whole lands and barony (Titles of Estate). Fraser thereupon changed the title to Fraserfield. (For a full account of the Fraser family, see No. 18, August 19, 1908.)

* The charter of 1707 granted by Queen Anne in favour of Lord John Gray, contained certain extended rights, including a grant of salmon fishing, which were continued in the title-deeds. The description is as follows:—"All and whole the lands and barony of Balgownie comprehending therein all and every one of the towns, lands, mills and other things respectively,

namely:—All and Whole the town and lands of Balgownie, All and Whole the town and lands of Westfield, All and Whole the town and lands of Murcor. All and Whole the grain mill of Balgownie, otherwise called Cathok's Mill, with the mill lands, astrict multures, sequels, and knaveships of the same, All and Whole the Waukmill of Balgownie, with the mill lands, privileges, and crofts of the same, and with the multures and the knaveships of the said lands of Balgownie, and Murcor, Westfield, and of the mill lands of the said grain mill, and of the mill lands of the said wauk mill of Balgownie, . . . with all and every one of their houses, buildings, gardens, tofts, crofts, outsets, insets, cottages moors, meadows, commonties, common pastures, fields, annexes, connexes, dependencies, holdings, tenandries, servitudes of free tenants, ... along with the special privilege, full liberty, and leave of having and holding one or more fishing boats at any part or place suitable and fit for that upon the water of Don lying next adjacent to the said lands for catching white fish in the sea . . . all united, annexed, erected, created, and incorporated into one whole and free barony, called the barony of Balgownie, lying in the parish of Saint Machars, within our Sheriffdom of Aberdeen . . . ."

Gordon of Braichlie.

On October 12, 1691, John Gordon of "Braichlie" granted, at Edinburgh, a bond for £200 to Alexander Forbes, merchant, burgess of Edinburgh. It was registered at Edinburgh June 21, 1692.

J. M. B.

Gordon of Braco.

On November 5, 1696, Charles Gordon of "Braike" granted (at Ayr) a bond to William Robin, baillie of Ayr, for £600 Scots. It was registered at Edinburgh November 24, 1696.

J. M. B.

Coutts of Westercoul.

On December 5, 1665, Harry Gordon of Farskane granted at Templand (witness, Alexander Milne, in Templand) a bond for 100 merks Scots to Captain Adam Coutts of Westercoul. It was registered at Edinburgh November 12, 1668.

On July 1, 1661, there was registered a bond by Harry Gordon of Farskane for £15 15s to James Brown, Clerk of Session.

J. M. B.

First Graduate of Aberdeen University.

The presentation of the freedom of Leamington to Alderman Thomas William Thursfield, which took place recently, has considerable interest for Aberdeen, from the fact that Alderman Thursfield was the first graduate of the new University of Aberdeen. Alderman Thursfield is a native of Kidderminster. In 1856 he entered at the University and King's College, Aberdeen, in the faculty of medicine, in which he was the private pupil of Professor Peter Redfern, afterwards at Queen's College, Belfast. He remained at the University till August, 1860. He was still under age, but having fulfilled all requisite regulations and kept a sufficiency of terms, he was, by special permission of the Senatus, allowed to go up for examination for his degree in medicine, but was not to graduate till of age, supposing he passed. He was reported by the examiners to the Senatus to have passed, and two days after he came of age was allowed to graduate as Doctor of Medicine. His diploma, a copy of which he presented to the University in July, 1896, is dated 25th September, 1860, and Dr Thursfield was thus the first graduate in any faculty of the new University of Aberdeen, which was constituted by Act of Parliament on the previous 8th September, constituting the fusion of King's College and Marischal College into one University.

Gauld Family of Class.

The following will supplement the information contained in "Scottish Notes and Queries," 2nd Series, VIII., 67; and in Mr John A. Henderson's "Aberdeenshire Epitaphs," I., 335. A monument to James Gauld, which has just been erected at Walla' Kirk, bears the following inscription:—"In memory of James Gauld, Nether Demeath, who died on the 27th December, 1857, aged 77 years. On the 19th of May, 1812, while serving as a private in the 92nd Gordon Highlanders, he was specially mentioned for gallant conduct at the capture of the fortified posts and pontoon bridge on the river Tagus, at Almaraz. The bridge was cut away by the enemy, and Gauld, followed by others, swam to the opposite side, brought back the boats, and thus secured the bridge. Erected by relatives."

The square monument stands about 3ft. 6in. in height, and consists of two bases, die, cap, and urn.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

Difficulty in Running a Newspaper.

On Friday sennight, the copyright of the "Elgin Courier" was sold at Webster's Inn, Elgin, for £5. The types and presses were sold for £130. The paper had, in fact, but a nominal value, the circulation having, we understand, fallen to about 130.—"Aberdeen Journal," October 22, 1834.

A "Bliare" Inscription.

On the fly leaf of a book at one time the property of Gilcomston Free Church Library, Aberdeen, there is the following—

Robert Bliare ought this
book, the Greece of god
Oupon him loke,
And if this book be amising restore it agen.
Robert Blaire with His Hand.

The book has the following title-page—

Plain Scripture Proof
of
Infants Church Membership
and
Baptism
being

The Arguments prepared for (and partly managed in) the publick Dispute with Mr Tombes at Bewdley on the first day of Jan. 1649.

With a ful Reply to what he then answered, and what is contained in his Sermon since preached, in his printed Books, his MS. on I. Cor. 7 14 which I saw, against M. Marshall against these Arguments.

By Richard Baxter

A Minister of Christ for his Church at Kederminster.

Constrained unavoidably hereto by Mr Tombes his importunity; by frequent Letters, Messengers, in his Pulpit, and last in print, calling out for my Arguments, and charging the

Deniall upon my Conscience.

With an appendix of Animadversions on Mr Bedford's Tractate, and part of

Dr Wards, which seem to give too much to Baptism.

The Third Edition.

Wherein is added, An Examination of Mr T.'s Praecursor.

And

A friendly accomodation with Mr Bedford.

London, Printed for Robert White, 1653.

The book at one time belonged to a Miss Helen Malcolm, and is in wonderful preservation.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

More Cleanings in the Vernacular.

The Scottish Dialect Committee is steadily pursuing its meritorious work of gathering in the unconsidered flot-sam and jetsam of conversational Scots, and the salvage already amounts to a respectable total. It is indeed surprising to see how many real finds are coming in. In a comparatively short time the possibility of fresh discoveries will be gone, for the steady pressure of the primary school and the rapid spread of the means of communication are sweeping away the "auld plane Scottis" as a spoken tongue. A pious patriotism cherishes the mother speech in the colonies and in those English centres where Scotsmen have established themselves; in certain households in London, for example, one hears the vernacular of Scotland used with a sort of defiant affection. But at home here the generation now growing up has far less acquaintance than the last with the native speech of Lowland Scotland; the change since 1872 has been very marked, and of late has tended to assert itself in a geometrical ratio In 1866 a boy attending school from a well-to-do home in Aberdeen might be heard to exclaim when startled, "Sic a flee ye gied me." His representative—perhaps his son—would say to day, "How you frightened me!" In the North-East are two words pronounced cweed, one means tub (Gae), cudainn, the other cud. A decent man trying to speak English instead of Scots reported a sick cow as improving because she had begun to "chaw her tub"! No doubt it is all inevitable and desirable in the interests of common intercourse, but those of us in whose ears the old speech was familiar may be pardoned at least a sentimental regret at its decay. A considerable addition to the list of Scottish words in print was made recently in Dr Metcalfe's supplement to Jamieson, but the words there were practically all taken from printed sources. Dr Metcalfe mentions a considerable number of such sources, and then says truly enough, "There are still many sources to be examined, and others to be re-examined, but a work of this kind cannot be satisfactorily and finally done without time and money and an army of readers, to say nothing of captains and generals and a commander-in-chief." The investigation of the spoken language is more difficult still, but for this purpose a number of voluntary workers, enthusiasts in the cause, has been secured, and they are picking up some excellent material. By-and-by it will all have to be carefully examined by expert philologists, but the urgent business is to get together words still current before they pass into the limbo of the forgotten. For the task more helpers are needed, and any willing to help should communicate with the convener of the Scottish Dialect Committee, Mr William Grant, Ashfield, Cults, Aberdeenshire.

There is a certain propriety in directing this inquiry from the north-eastern corner of Scotland. Jamieson made the dialects of Central Scotland the core of his Dictionary, and as a matter of fact was not strong in those spoken elsewhere. Some of these have been dealt with by other investigators. Dr Grigor in the north-east, Dr Coiville in the east, Mr Shaw in Dumfries, and Dr Murray in the south-west, did excellent work, and added considerably to the data available for a good dictionary of the speech of Lowland Midland. Their labours must be supplemented by all inspired with their enthusiasm, and help can be given in various ways. Some may be fortunate enough to know or to discover new words, others may be able to check lists already made up, others to supply shades of meaning, and so on. In communi-

cating with Mr Grant, it is advisable to give the name of the parish, town, or county where the word has been heard, and if possible to add an illustrative sentence. The north-east corner of Scotland is very rich in remains of the vernacular, and from it many new words have come in, but other parts of the country would also yield much to reward the industrious explorer. A number of words will now be given to show what kind of treasure-trove may reward the searcher. Aivis, an unprofitable job, is reported from New Deer, Aberdeenshire; the supplement to Jamieson gives aiving, doubting, hesitating. This is a Shetland word, Icel, efa, ifa, to doubt, and words of this type are very common in Aberdeenshire. Bagglers, the fry of trout, is from Central Perthshire, and is a form of bagrel, a minnow. Broch, an apron, Carnoustie, is probably from Gael. brochan, a plaid. Bluifs, clumsy shoes or slippers, Kirkcudbright, may be connected with bluff. Braxies, marbles with brown spots, Moray, suggests Gael. breac, spotted.

The shires of Aberdeen and Moray have been worked with good results. Morayshire yields brent, to lean (easily connected with brent in the sense of high, steep); cweef, a trick or catch; camaled, turned in the edge as a scythe (cam, crooked); chye, a chaffinch; cweelie off, wheedle out of; doolies, marbles; dentgd, tainted with damp; fidgie or fitchie, a mealie pudding; feenchy, faded in colour, spoiled in the making; granniedey, an old man, a grandfather; hertsead, heartburn; knais(h)t, a piece or lump; kweetin, a bedcover; knap-girse, knot grass (knap is knob, knop, as in knapweed); loorach, rags (Gael. luireach, a patched garment); mouden, to melt or clarify; nyauve, to gnaw (of which it may be a variant); ootaltie, something to set off the person; pinler, a forester or woodman (perhaps for pine-ler); penstraker, a whin-linnet or yellowhammer; sattril, sarcastic; sheeprot (i.e., wort), the butterwort; wamfil, weak, helpless, useless (compare waff, worthless, which connects with waif). Aberdeenshire yields beezim-tight, clean swept (an obvious but apt phrase); capper, a late riser (one that claws the porridge caup); cawk, as in "he'll cawk (i.e., chalk, mark) ye for that"; cawker, as in "he'll put on the cawker" (i.e., the price)—a sort of slang use of cawker, the sharpened under part of a horse's shoe; chilp, chilpie, cold; choup, as in "Tak' choup (i.e., a dish of want) for a choenge." (Shaw gives choops, the hips of the wild rose); gey geddert, that is, very shrunken; gloan, feverish excitement (is this connected with Gael. glonn, a deed of valour?); hurkles, hips (from hurken, to squat, but confused with huckle, the hip); jaupit, thin; jehoyt, to cease; jeck, to go right; kweeger, an untidy mixture; lyawgin, gossiping; lybbich, reading or reciting; muchty, close, stale (an extended form of mochy); mineerum, trouble; nearbegyawn, greedy; piltin pyock, a thick, old piece of cloth; rudder, as in "A' thing's gyaun to the rudder (ruin)" (is this connected with rother, manure?); runt, to win all from, as in a game of marbles (in Kirkcudbright, store); skluff, something large; skice, to run; shagmahoch, a small, deformed person; smuchty, smoky; smoolit-like-smatchit, of which the meaning is doubtful; shoomach, an insignificant-looking person; tongue-betrusht, outspoken; wappy, neat; yirditains, little heaps of earth spread over a field (a hybrid evidently, erd, A.S. eard, earth, and tom, Gaelic for hillock); yagiment, excitement—"He wis in a yagiment to get at 'im." Banffshire yields rainscooter, to send flying in a panic (Icel. ramr, strong, and scoot, or skite, a variant of shoot); skitten, pampered (connected with skittish, compare the text "Jeshurun waxed fat and kicked").

From other parts of Scotland good things are coming in. Some examples follow:—Clean-dakeith for, too clever for (Selkirk); cheekyside, aslant (Berwick); catterthraw, a fit of rebellious ill-temper (Central Perth); eyn, an oven (Peebles); fugle, a cunning cheat (Central Perth), to handle so as to cheat (Stirling); frig, to be fastidious over trifles (Berwick); haroosh, a noisy clamour, and helm, a crowd (Stirling); hork, to grub like a pig (Kirkcudbright); habieshaw, to throw sweets in the air for children to pick up (central Perth); huggermagrillian, a coarse, unkempt, tattered woman (Central Perth); hut, a heap (Berwick; in Dumfries hut is a square basket, which opened in the bottom, used for carrying manure into the fields); jouter, to saunter (Berwick); jammie, a hovel (Black Isle); luiffie, a morning roll (Arbroath); mathy, warm and misty (Berwick); mink (L. mingere), a chamber-pot (Forfar); nabble, to work fast (Arbroath); nonwordit, neglected (Berwick); nafferel, insignificant-looking (Berwick); peelaneat, sickly-looking (Selkirk); paddy ladle, a tadpole (Berwick); poper, the boy that swept out the school-room in return for his fees (in my school at Aberdeen the boy that did odd jobs for his fees was called the scutterer); ranter base, to embroider (Berwick); Roman Catholic, the red admiral butterfly (Kirkcudbright); romie, a small brown marble (Kirkcudbright); screel, to scream (Stirling; a variant of skirl); stookie, bashful, awkward; scabely, untidy, naked; scriffan, a small quantity; spleerie, to splatter (all from Stirling); skirvin, a thin covering of snow or earth; scodge, to do housework, and teesick, a spell of illness (Berwick); throosh, to play truant, and tyuchle, a tough morsel (Kirkcudbright); whirly, delicate (Kirkcudbright); yip, a shrew (Berwick).—"Glasgow Herald," 6th August, 1910.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary, 1866.

14th January. At the Schoolhouse, Strachan, Rev. Alexander M'Connachie, Parochial Schoolmaster there.

18th January. At Tillery House, W. C. Hunter, Esq. of Tillery.

17th January. At Logie-Coldstone, Rev. John M'Hardy, in his 82nd year.

26th January. At Hallgreen Castle, aged 76, Mary, widow of David Scott, Esq. of Brotherton, and only surviving daughter of the late William Sedden, Esq. of Acres Field, Lancashire.

1st February. At 124 Crown Street, Miss Mary Robertson, daughter of the late Rev. Alexander Robertson, minister at Coull.

2nd February. At the Manse, Banchory-Devenick, Jessy Stewart, wife of Rev. William Paul, D.D.

10th February. At the Manse, New Machar, Rev. Alexander Allan, minister of that parish.

4th March. At 12 North Silver Street, Wilhelmina Johnston, relict of Rev. Alexander Kirkland, minister of Trinity Chapel, Aberdeen, aged 76.

31st January. At Buxa, Bhootan, of dysentery, in his 38th year, Archibald Cumine, Major, 1st Goorka Regiment Light Infantry, son of John Cumine, Esq., late of Auchry, and grandson of Archibald Young Leslie, Esq., late of Kininvie.

1st January. At his residence, Kardinia, Geelong, Victoria, Australia, Dr Alexander Thomson, aged 65. Dr Thomson was a native of Aberdeen, and one of the first explorers of Port Philip. He, unaided, brought his bullock team from Melbourne overland to Geelong, which was then his run. He initiated the Corporation of Geelong, and was its first Mayor.

31st March. At Craigmyle House, Peter Laing Gordon, Esq. of Craigmyle.

4th April. At Meadowbank, aged 75, Jessie Gray, relict of James Reid, Esq. of Muirton.

11th April. At 53 Schoolhill, Elizabeth Bennett, wife of Rev. Patrick Robertson, late of Craigdam and Culsalmond.

21st April. Thomas Buchan, Esq., younger of Auchmacoy, in his 50th year.

21st April. At Kinaldie, Margaret Henderson, relict of William Mortimer, late farmer, Brux, Strathdon, in her 97th year.

15th April. At Hill of Keir, Belhelvie, Margaret Crockett, aged 102. She had shorn corn in the snowy harvest of 1782, and remembered having seen the celebrated Peter Williamson travelling through the country selling his "Life and Adventures among the Indians."

27th April. At the Free Church Manse of Keig, Tough, George M. Smith, aged 18 [immediate younger brother of William Robertson Smith, afterwards Professor].

2nd May. At Cuparstone Place, Aberdeen, Charles Downie, of Ashfield, aged 74.

2nd May. At Lessendrum House, in her 77th year, Jane Harriot, beloved wife of Rev. M. G. Fenwick Bisset.

1st May. Jane Cathrine, widow of James Cuningham Grant Duff, Esq. of Eden [and daughter of Sir Whitelaw Ainslie].

1st May. At 44 Elgin Crescent, Kensington, London, Jane Stephen, widow of William Black, Esq., Wine Merchant, Aberdeen, aged 94.

13th May. At 20 Regent Quay, Mr William Williams, Merchant.

10th May. At her residence, 23 Stafford Street, Edinburgh Rebecca Urquhart, aged 80, last surviving daughter of the late William Urquhart, Esq. of Craigston, Aberdeenshire.

20th May. At 19 Silver Street, Miss Elizabeth Primrose, eldest daughter of Rev. William Primrose.

10th May. At Croftcroy, Daviot, Henrietta Macgillivray, aged 107. She was unmarried, and had been bedridden for the past seven years.

22th May. At London, Sir John Hepburn Stuart Forbes of Pitsligo and Fettercairn, Bart.

25th May. At Madrid, John Joseph Gordon of Wardhouse and Kildrummy, Esq., in his 29th year.

30th May. At 19 Silver Street, Rev. William Primrose, in the 83rd year of his age and the 60th of his ministry as pastor of the congregation of Melville Church.

31st May. At the Manse, Cairney, Rev. William Cowie, in the 80th year of his age and 50th of his ministry.

12th June. At Ambleside, Westmoreland, Alexander Jardine Lizars, Emeritus Professor of Anatomy in the University of Aberdeen.

25th June. At St Devenick's Cottage, Cults, [Margaret Massie] Mrs Barclay, aged 73.

19th June. At 16 Charlotte Street, Peterhead, aged 91, Thomas Smith, late of Millbreck, and senior partner in the firm of Thomas Smith and Company, Manufacturers.

14th July. At Old Aberdeen, George Ferguson, LL.D., Emeritus Professor of Humanity in the University of Aberdeen.

17th July. At Oyne Village, Rev. John Shand, late Parochial Schoolmaster of Oyne, in his 81st year.

18th July. At 62 Bon-Accord Street, Clementina, wife of James Giles, R.S.A.

24th August. Suddenly, at Norwood, near Aberdeen, William Adamson, Esq.

26th August. At Tillery House, suddenly, John Chambers Hunter, Esq. of Tillery.

10th September. At Footdee, Aberdeen, Christina Wilson, wife of James Hull, Shipbuilder, aged 59.

16th September. At Middlemuir, Ardo, Peter Harvey, Esq. of Ardo, aged 90.

17th September. At Osborne House, Harrogate, Garden William Duff, Esq. of Hatton, Aberdeenshire, aged 52

2nd October. At Ferryhill, Aberdeen, Mrs Abernethy, senior, aged 82.

12th October. At Aberdeen, Williamina Helen Stewart, widow of Colonel [James John] Forbes Leith of Whitehaugh, and only

daughter of the late Colonel James Stewart, of the 42nd Highlanders, aged 63.

22nd October. At 26 North Silver Street, Patrick Campbell Auld, artist.

4th November. At Morkeu Cottage, Pitfodels, William Duncan, late Treasurer of Police, in his 71st year.

8th November. At the Manse, Crathie, Rev. Archibald Anderson, Minister of the parish of Crathie, in his 73rd year.

6th November. At the Manse, Logie-Buchan, Colonel A. J. Fraser, C.B.

6th November. At Huntly, Mrs Amelia Anderson of Ellishill, relict of Captain William Anderson, of the 96th Regiment.

12th November. At Keith, James Smith, A.M., Parochial Schoolmaster there.

19th November. At Edinburgh, William Farquharson, Yr. of Finzean.

18th December. At the Manse, Maryculter, Rev. John Bower, in his 81st year.

19th December. At Kingcausie, Miss Mary Anne Boswell of Balmuto.

29th December. At Seaton House, Basil Fisher, Esq., aged 61.

27th December. At Aldie, Cruden, Ann Smith, wife of James Shepherd, Esq. of Aldie.

Queries.

536. William Gordon, L.R.C.P.—Munk states (Roll of the Royal College of Physicians iii., 31) that William Gordon, M.D., was a native of Sutherland, a doctor of medicine, Aberdeen, December 12, 1806, and L.R.C.P. 23 March, 1807. Who was he, and when did he die?

J. M. B.

537. Sir Richard Urquhart.—Last year I read a paragraph in a Scotch newspaper to the effect that a copy of the "Vestiarium Scoticum," by "Schyr Richard Urquhart, Knycht," had been sold in Glasgow for £500. I wish the purchaser luck of his prize. The book in question was published in 1842 by one of the brothers Hay-Allan, who masqueraded for years as Charles Edward and John Sobieski Stuart, and who both died in Scotland. Allan stated that he had the manuscript collated with a transcript preserved in a monastery at Cadiz, Spain. I have always been led to believe that the "Vestiarium Scoticum" was of doubtful authenticity, not to write too forcibly on that score. At any rate, Sir Richard does not appear in the pedigree of the Urquharts, and assuredly if he had existed, Sir Thomas Urquhart, that vainglorious old Quixote, would have gasconaded about him in his "Jewel," but he did not. I looked into Nisbet's Heraldry and into the records of the members of the Catholic priesthood (who at an early period had "Sir" prefixed to their names), published some years back, but could find no trace of the elusive and illusory Sir Richard. From the book itself one would fancy him a glorified tailor, for he has the sartorial faculty strongly developed. Mr Hugh Beveridge, of Edinburgh, has written recently on this theme, but I have not seen his book, and do not know whether he settles the point or not. Was there ever a Sir Richard Urquhart?

Alba.

538. Colonel Robert Gordon, Bombay Army.—Colonel Robert Gordon, who died at Canterbury August 1, 1835, left as his executors Charles Gordon of Edintore and the latter's cousin, Robert Gordon, captain in the Bombay Army, who was the son of the Rev. Lewis Gordon of Drainie, and who was designed residuary legatee of the estate to the extent of a third. This seems to corroborate my suggestion in the "House of Gordon" (ii., 405), and again in the "Huntly Express," where I dealt at length with his life (July 27, 1907), that Colonel Robert belonged to the Edintore family. Can any reader show me how?

J. M. Bulloch.

539. Christian Milne.—Is there any account given of this poetess in "The Bards of Bon-Accord"? I read in the old Celtic Magazine, when conducted by the late Alexander Mackenzie, genealogist of the clans, a memoir, stating that her maiden name was Christian Ross, and that she was born in Inverness of humble parentage. She married an Aberdeen ship-carpenter, named Milne, and lived in Footdee till her death about the end of the 'forties. There is no headstone to her memory in St Clement's Churchyard for I made a thorough search, without result. I remember seeing one of her poems, entitled (I think) "The Virtuous Wife," framed in a neighbour's house. It was double-columned, with a border round it, and written in the 10-syllable heroic measure. I was too young at the time, else I could have obtained full particulars of her life history, for she was a grand-aunt of the people living next to us. In my copy of the Rev. John Skinner's poems (Edinburgh, 1809) there is an elegiac poem on the death of the author, by Christian Milne, of Footdee, and another on the death of Bishop Skinner's wife, in March 1807. They are both sympathetic and sincere, and evince a considerable amount of culture for a Highland woman of lowly origin. In this respect she resembled Anna Yearsley, the poetical milkmaid of Bristol, and Janet Little Richmond, the dairymaid devotee of Burns; but I very much doubt if her poetical gift added materially to her worldly comfort.

Alba.

[Christian Milne was authoress of "Simple Poems on Simple Subjects," 8vo., 183 pages; Aberdeen, J. Chalmers and Company, 1805. Interesting particulars regarding her are given

in Walker's "The Bards of Bon-Accord," pp. 349-50.—Ed.]

540. TURRIFF ALMANAC FOR 1909.—Would some reader possessing a copy of the Turriff Almanac for 1909 oblige the editor with the loan of it for one week?

Answers.

519. BELLEVILLE.—Belleville as possessed by James Reid formed part of the original property of Gilcomston, Aberdeen.

R. YOUNG.

520. REV. JOHN EDWARDS, MARNOCH.—Mr Edwards, minister of the parish of Marnoch, died 1st October, 1848, aged 56.

ABERCHIRDER.

533. HANGMAN'S BRAE, ABERDEEN. — The Hangman's Brae was at the south-east corner of the Castlegate. The title was applied because is was of old the place of residence of the hangman. In October, 1831, Christian Waters or Milne, relict of the late hangman, was brought before the Police Court, charged with committing a breach of the peace at Hangman's Brae, and breaking a pane of glass in the house of her husband's successor. She was sent 60 days to Bridewell.

Y.

No. 126.—September 14, 1910.

The Cairnwell Road.

The Cairnwell Road, stretching from Castleton of Braemar to the Spittal of Glenshee, is unique inasmuch as it is the highest coaching road in Britain. The road itself is part of the great military route from Blairgowrie to Fort-George, and it is associated with the name of General Wade, but whether that distinguished soldier personally superintended its construction I am unable to say. General Wade spent nine years at this kind of work in the Highlands, and completed 200 miles of road before his commission terminated in 1737. The work was assiduously continued for many years after his departure, however, and it is just possible that roads may be ascribed to his credit which were in reality constructed by his successors.

There can be no doubt that the route up Glen Cluny and down Glenshee served as a road long before the days of General Wade. It was certainly the most direct and easiest route to the more southerly central parts of the country, while from the vicinity of the Cairnwell, diverging paths—if they could be termed so—led to the head of Glency, Atholl, and Badenoch. Hence we find that the Cairnwell was much frequented by the wild freebooters of the north and west when returning with the spoils which they had remorselessly borne off from their more peacefully disposed southern neighbours. At a later date, many a consignment of smuggled whisky was conveyed over the Cairnwell to the southern market, the result being frequent sharp scrimmages between the owners of the contraband product and the Excisemen.

Over the Cairnwell a four-in-hand coach plies regularly during the summer months, and has done so for a number of years. Mr John M'Pherson, J.P., Braemar, states that he is of opinion that the coach first began to run in the summer of 1829. His mother, an intelligent old lady of 86, remembers accompanying her sister, when five years of age, to a cottage on the route to see the first coach pass. In my opinion, Mr M'Pherson is correct; or, at least, very nearly so, for I have carefully examined a complete list of all coaches plying in Scotland in 1825, and can find no mention in it of the Braemar one. Curiously enough, when first started the southern terminus of the coach was Perth, to which town it has again this year reverted, after running for many years to Dunkeld.

Let us, however, accompany the coach on the first stage of its journey—viz., from Braemar to Spittal of Glenshee—and note the objects of interest that are to be seen and some of the incidents which have occurred on the route.

Castleton of Braemar is divided into two portions by the Cluny a little above its junction with the Dee. On the left bank is Auchendryne, on the right Castleton proper. Leaving the spacious and almost palatial Fife Arms Hotel, the Cluny is crossed by a substantial stone bridge, widened a few years ago to meet the requirements of modern traffic. A little above the bridge, on the right bank of the Cluny, and at its very edge, may be seen the ruins or, more appropriately, the foundation, of the old castle of Kindrochet. It is to be presumed that it was from this castle that the village derived its name—"Castle-town"—since shortened into Castleton. When the castle was in its pristine glory, a draw-bridge was thrown across the Cluny, hence the name of the castle—Ceann-an-drochart, i.e., "the Bridge-head," and by this name the parish of Braemar was anciently known. Tradition ascribes the building of the castle to Malcolm III., "Ceanmor" (1057-1093), and it would appear to have been not infrequently visited by subsequent monarchs, to whom it probably served as a hunting seat. Robert II. (1371-1390) visited it frequently, and on at least some of those occasions passed over the Cairnwell, thus proving a very early existence of the route. The castle continued in Royal ownership up to 1564, when it was granted to the Earl of Mar by Queen Mary. There is no authentic record as to why, how, or when it was allowed to fall into ruins. Grant, in his "Legends of the Braes o' Mar," recounts the tradition that the Galar mor, or great plague, broke out in the castle, and that a company of artillery was brought from Blair Castle to demolish it. All within the castle perished with it. About ten or a dozen years ago some workmen, while carrying out improvements, laid bare a portion of wall eleven feet in thickness, as well as a stone stairway, evidently leading to lower levels. There is little reason to doubt that vaults, probably still intact, remain in the foundation of the old castle, and some interesting discoveries would doubtless be made were the ruins properly and systematically excavated.

For a short distance the road runs downstream, almost parallel to the Cluny, and then it takes a sharp turn upwards to the right. Just where it takes the turn stands the Invercauld Arms Hotel—a large, handsome, and commodious granite structure—its site occupying the place where the Earl of Mar raised the standard of rebellion in 1715. The exact spot is beneath a bow window of the old dining-room, and is marked by a brass plate on the inside. A new dining-saloon and other apartments have been added to the hotel within the last few years.

A little farther down by the side of the road to Aberdeen is the churchyard of Braemar, where for generations the "rude forefathers of the hamlet" have been laid to rest. In close proximity, and on a green "haugh" between the road and the river Dee, stands Mar Castle. This building and its site originally belonged to the Farquharsons of Invercauld, but passed by excambion to the

Earl of Mar, who is credited with having erected the present castle in 1433. After the Revolution King William placed troops in it for the purpose of maintaining order, but the Highlanders put the garrison to flight, and to prevent their return, burnt the castle. After the "rising" of 1715 all the Mar estates, including the castle, were forfeited to the Crown. About 1720 Lords Dun and Grange bought from the Government the lands which had previously belonged to the Erskine family, and about ten years later Mr Farquharson of Invercauld bought from them the lands of Castleton. After the rebellion of 1745 the Government again became desirous of establishing a military post in Braemar, and about 1748 secured a lease of the castle, along with fourteen acres of ground, for ninety-nine years, at a rental of £14 per annum. The castle was then repaired, a rampart built around it, and the place occupied by a party of soldiers. When the services of the soldiery were no longer required, they were withdrawn, and for a time the castle remained in a state of neglect. Recently, however,, it has been fitted up in modern style the outward appearance being allowed to remain the same as formerly, and it is let during the summer months of each year.

The route up Glen Cluny now begins. On the left is Craig Choinnich, i.e., Kenneth's Craig—1764 feet high—said to have derived its name from Kenneth I., "Mac Alpin" (844-859), who had a hunting seat in the vicinity, and who, on occasion, made it his heading hill. Behind it, from the Cluny to the Dee, stretches the "Queen's Drive," a name derived from its having been used by the late Queen Victoria. The more densely-wooded country is now left behind, but the fringe of trees still continues, thin and straggling birches, tenaciously clinging to the mountain sides, showing themselves as we proceed upward. On the opposite side of the Cluny is the recently-formed golf course, which has added not a little to the amenities and attractions of Braemar.

About a mile from Castleton, and at the foot of the Callater burn, which drains the loch of the same name, is the farmhouse of Auchallater. At this point a right-of-way path strikes up Glen Callater, over the intervening mountains, and down Glen Clova, the southerly portion traversing the whole length of Glen Doll deer forest. Several years ago Mr Duncan M'Pherson of Glen Doll tried to close this path, and unsuccessfully contested an expensive and protracted lawsuit in the Court of Session. On the opposite side of the Cluny stands Coldrach, an ancient possession of the Farquharsons.

Cultivation is now left behind, and the general aspect of Glen Cluny becomes bare and bleak. The valley is narrow, enclosed by high, sterile mountains, with small expanses of alluvial, grass-covered ground at the riverside. On either hand burns and streamlets rush down to join the Cluny. There is little variation in the scenery—the same monotony extends to the highest level, and houses are few.

Newbigging, with Corgalty on the opposite side, is next passed, and a little farther on—about three miles from the starting-point—Fraser's Brig is reached. This erection consists of two arches, through one of which the whole of the waters of the Cluny pass, except when the stream is in flood. The structure, which has probably assumed the name of its builder, has the appearance of considerable age, and may have originated at the hands of the military road-makers, although it certainly lacks the steep arch so characteristic of General Wade's bridges. Here the old military road crossed the Cluny, and proceeded to Castleton down the left bank. In the years 1859-60-61 the Glen Cluny road was greatly altered by being diverted to the other side of the river from this point. The older road remains, however, and is still in tolerable repair. Dim traditions, now almost lost, of supernatural manifestations are yet associated with the vicinity of Fraser's Brig. Ghostly funeral processions, and a mystical white horse, that evidently bore no goodwill to humanity, are said to have been seen in the vicinity in byegone days, but no reason for their appearance is now forthcoming.

Passing onward, Altoetch and the modern shooting lodge of Glen Cluny, with Cornalarig on the opposite side—all ensconced in a small plantation of recent date—are reached. The large corry opening on the right is drained by the Baddoch Burn, near the foot of which stands the farmhouse of Baddoch—the last house in the Cluny basin.

When sma' stills were common, much of the contraband produce passed along this route. One day the "Bonach-cappach," i.e., toothless, old man, a noted smuggler, and father of Alexander Grewar, the famous Braemar poacher, was passing up the Glen with a cargo of whisky slung over the back of his pony, when he was confronted by a "gauger." The latter not only laid immediate claim to the liquor, but to the horse that carried it. The "Bodach" protested strongly, and tried to compromise, but the exciseman was inexorable, and as the smuggler did not believe in violence, the representative of the law marched off with pony and whisky. Grewar hurried to the nearest house, where he found the goodwife alone, and asked her if her husband had a gun. The woman replied in the negative, adding that the only article of the kind in the house was an old, rusty flint-lock, without hammer or pan. "Never mind," replied the toothless one, "it'll do fine." Pushing on at full speed, he managed to get ahead of the exciseman, who, when he made up, was alarmed to see the form of the grim Highlander carefully covering him with an apparently deadly weapon. The result was that the "gauger" took to his heels, leaving the "Bodach" to pursue his journey in triumph with his recaptured property.

DAVID GREWAR, F.S.A. (Scot.).

(To be continued.)

Liddell Monument at Pitmedden.

At a meeting of the Finance Committee of the Aberdeen Town Council held on 18th August ult. it was agreed to take immediate action for the repairing of the monument to Dr Duncan Liddell at Pitmedden. This monument, which is four-sided, stands on a knoll in a field upon the estate, and to the south-east of Pitmedden Railway Station. It is inscribed in Latin, which may be translated:—

On the north side—

The Senatus of Aberdeen caused this monument to be erected A.D. 1637 to the imperishable memory of Mr Duncan Liddell, M.D., citizen of Aberdeen.

On the south side—

In the year 1614 Mr Duncan Liddell, Doctor of Medicine, with the authority of the King and the Estates of the Realm, mortified the house and the lands of Pitmedden for behoof of six students in Arts in the University of Aberdeen.

On the west side the arms of Bon-Accord are shown, while on the east Dr Liddell's arms are exhibited, flanked by the initials "D.D.L.", and bearing a motto which may be translated, "So let your light shine."

Considerable satisfaction must have been felt in civic circles over the generosity of Dr Liddell, the burgh accounts showing that a sum of 12s was expended "for drink that come to the towbuithe at the making of Doctor Liddell's testament," also 1 lib. "for ane efternunes drink in Jon Tulidaffis to the clarkis that tuik up the inventar of his bukis."

A memorial brass, in the West Church of Aberdeen, is lettered, "To the eternal memory of Duncan Liddell, Doctor of Medicine; eminent in medicine and all philosophy and mathematics." The drawing of the old worthy has all the minuteness of a photograph. He is represented sitting in his study in a handsome chair at his table, writing with a quill pen in an open book. A diploma with two seals hanging from it is lying beside him. The old Scottish doctor has bushy eyebrows, and a shrewd Scottish face with a pointed beard, and is hard at work, carefully displaying, at the same time, a large ring upon the thumb of his right hand. He wears a cap, which protects the back of his head from cold, and is dressed in a doublet, richly furred. Around him are learned tomes and mathematical instruments.

Admiral Thomas Gordon's Wife.

It is usually stated that the admiral married a daughter of Sir Thomas Elphinstone of Calderwood. In 1707 his wife was the widow of William Moniepenny, as the following interesting reference shows.

1707, June 12.—Decreet of Furthcoming, in action at the instance of James Taylor, W.S., against, inter alios, Peter Gordon of Saintfoord and —— relict of Master William Moniepenny, and then spouse to Captain Thomas Gordon, of the "Royal William," arrestees, and Alexander Colvil, of Kincardine, the common debtor. (Register of Decreets, vol. 160).

J. M. B.

Gordon of Briggs.

On January 18, 1710, there was Decreet of Preference in an action of multiplepoinding brought by the Commissioner of Equivalent, against William Hepburne of Beanstoun and others, including Isobel [Elizabeth?] Horsburgh, relict of William Gordon of Briggs. Her procurator appeared, and craved to see the process, but the court preferred the claim of Beanstoun.

J. M. B.

Portraits of William MacGillivray.

On page 102 of the new "Life of William MacGillivray" a record by Lady Geddes, widow of the late Principal Geddes, of the Aberdeen University, is given. In this record Lady Geddes says—"I share the regret of his biographer that no authentic portrait is available." Mr J. E. Harting, writing to a recent issue of the "Athenæum" (No. 4321, page 214), points out that in one of the volumes on the Vertebrate Fauna of Scotland and the Isles, namely—that relating to the Outer Hebrides, by J. A. Harvie-Brown and T. E. Buckley (Edinburgh: Douglas, 1888) may be found two portraits with the following comment (Introductory, pp. ii-iii)—"We are glad to have the opportunity of giving the accompanying woodcuts from the only known likenesses of Professor William MacGillivray; and we are indebted for assistance in obtaining these to Mrs Beaton, Paris, and to Mrs MacGillivray of Eoligary, Barray. Owing to their well-known connection with the Hebrides, and our quoting so frequently from their works, we have thought that their portraits would prove of interest to our readers."

A Reader.

The Gordons in Glenbuchat.

To Mr J. M. Bulloch's list quoted in "Notes and Queries" II., 155-156, the undernoted copied from a headstone in Glenbuchat Churchyard, may be added:—

Erected to the memory of Peter Crawford, some time farmer in Dulex of Glenbucket, who died 11th November, 1855, aged 71 years. Also his spouse, Elizabeth Gordon, died 22nd May, 1824, aged 45. And their family—Peter, who died 30th January, 1845, aged 34; also his spouse Mary, Margaret Begg, died 23rd May, 1845, aged 26 years. And their son Peter, who died 16th October, 1884, aged 38 years.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1867.

8th January. At Ash Cottage, 13 Skene Row, Mr John Middleton, advocate, aged 32.

23rd January. At Old Aberdeen, suddenly, Rev. Robert Macpherson, D.D., Professor of Systematic Theology in the University of Aberdeen.

4th January. At his residence in Peterhead, William Arbuthnot, Esq. of Dens and Downiehills, aged 88.

22nd January. At Portsoy, Rev. William Allardyce, minister of Rhynie.

6th February. At Manse of Crathie, Elizabeth Farquharson, eldest daughter of the late Rev. A. Anderson of Crathie and Braemar.

3rd February. At the Manse, Macduff, Amelia Jane Scott, aged 30, wife of Rev. Hugh Fraser, and youngest surviving daughter of the late Professor Scott of King's College, Aberdeen.

18th February. At Westbank, Ferryhill, Catharine Abernethy wife of James Bryce, advocate.

13th February. At Banff, Grace, aged 77, second daughter of the late Rev. Dr [Robert] Duff, Minister of King-Edward.

23rd February. At Westerton House, Cults, George Stirling, merchant, Aberdeen, aged 52.

18th February. At the Manse, Keith-hall, Rev. John Keith, minister of Keith-hall and Kinkell.

22nd February. At 52½ Chapel Street, Ann Marr, relict of Mr William Henderson, soap manufacturer, aged 85.

3rd March. At 17 Rubislaw Terrace, George Henry, Esq., Merchant, aged 82 [sometime Provost of Aberdeen].

8th March. At 14 Rubislaw Terrace, Alexander Rae, R.N., Scobbach House, Turriff, aged 76.

5th March. At 23 Duke Street, Westminster, London, Captain [William Henry] Nares, R.N. (Danestone), aged 78.

12th March. At 76 Skene Street West, Maria Fettes, wife of William Boulton, C.E.

7th March. At his residence, Hampshire, in his 90th year, General Cosmo Gordon, youngest son of the late Hon. Alexander Gordon, Lord Rockville, and Ann, Countess of Dumfries.

15th March. At his house, 37 Charles Street, Berkeley Square, London, Admiral Ferguson, of Pitfour.

22nd March. At 7 Ann Place, John M'Pherson, Esq. of Springhill.

19th March. At New Pitsligo, William F. S. Gordon, A.M., Schoolmaster of Auchmedden, aged 30.

31st March. At the Free Church Manse, Macduff, Rev. William Leslie, A.M., Minister there.

1st April. At Huntly, George Grant, Esq., M.D., aged 42.

26th March. At Mormond House, Margaret Strachan of Cortes, only sister of the late Dr James Strachan, Inspector-General of Army Hospitals, Madras.

25th March. At the Free Church Manse Macduff, after four days' illness, Mrs Leslie, wife of Rev. William Leslie, A.M.

17th April. At 63 Dee Street, Jessie Duguid, widow of John Cadenhead, physician in Aberdeen.

26th April. At 11 Union Buildings, Rev. John Ferguson.

24th April. At Torquay, James Hay Chalmers, Esq., Advocate, Aberdeen, aged 38.

5th May. At 7 Rubislaw Terrace, James Williamson, Merchant.

8th May. At Stonehaven, Antoinette Brown, wife of Rev. Thomas Scott.

27th May. At 53 Wellington Street, George Duthie, Shipbuilder, aged 23.

22nd May. At the Manse, Clatt, Rev. James Walker, Minister of that parish, in his 59th year.

2nd June. At Ravenscraig, Peterhead, Amelia Sutter, wife of Charles Brand, Esq.

8th June. At Norra Gurda, Gothenburg, Joseph Rowell, Esq., of Aberdeen, aged 59.

21st June. At 7 Atholl Crescent, Edinburgh, Anne Carnegie, widow of Harry Gordon, Esq. of Knockespock.

18th June. At Hastings, Rev. Henry Seton, third son of Sir William Coote Seton, Bart., of Pitmedden, and curate of St Thomas, Portman Square, London, aged 27.

8th May. On his passage home from Mauritius, George Taylor, Esq., M.D., Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, only surviving son of the late Samuel Taylor, farmer, Lessendrum.

9th July. At 267 Union Street, Aberdeen, Susan Lacy, aged 29, wife of Alexander P. Hogarth, Esq.

16th July. At 16 Castle Terrace, Mr John Simpson, Soap and Candle Manufacturer.

26th July. At 53 Schoolhill, Rev. Patrick Robertson, late of Craigdam and Culsalmond, aged 90.

27th July. At Holm Cottage, Inverurie, Margaret Leslie, daughter of the late Rev. John Leslie, Minister of Fintray, and widow of George B. Bothwell, Esq., Aberdeen.

2nd August. At Upper Middlefield House, Jane Caird, wife of Richard Poole, M.D., aged 72.

8th August. At Willowbank, Aberdeen, Alexander Gibb, Esq., C.E.

23rd August. At Newlands Cottage, Aberdeen, William Henderson Grant, M.D.

31st August. At Fife-Keith, Mrs Edwards, widow of Rev. John Edwards, Minister of Marnoch, aged 79.

29th August. At Portsoy, Mrs Allardyce widow of Rev. William Allardyce, Minister of Rhynie.

25th September. At 10 Golden Square, William Leslie, Esq., Surgeon, in his 71st year

7th October. At Stonehaven, Margaret, eldest daughter of the late Rev. George Dunn Insch, aged 90.

17th October. At Craig Cottage, near Montrose, Barbara M'Combie, widow of Alexander Ewing, M.D., Aberdeen, and eldest daughter of the deceased Thomas M'Combie of Easter Skene.

22nd October. At the Manse, Monymusk, Rev. Thomas Henry Dawson, Minister of that parish, in the 43rd year of his age and 15th of his ministry.

24th October. At Kirkton, Glenbucket, Rev. James Chree, aged 86. Deceased was eleven years Parish Schoolmaster of Leslie, and forty-two years Schoolmaster of Inveravon.

9th November. At her residence, The Cottage, Huntly, Mrs M'Pherson, relict of Andrew M'Pherson, Gibston, in her 83rd year.

19th November. At Scotstown, Isabella, Lady Bruce of Scotstown, widow of Sir Michael Bruce, Bart. of Stenhouse, Stirlingshire, in her 69th year.

21st November. At Beech-hill, John Leith Esq. of Balcairn, aged 79.

21st November. At 7 Strawberry Bank, John Ogilvie, LL.D., aged 70 [author of the "Imperial Dictionary," etc.].

10th December. At the Free Church Manse Inverurie, Rev. Thomas Gray, aged 48.

8th December. At Hillhead, Fyvie, Rev. John Stott [A.M.], late parish Schoolmaster, aged 69.

11th December. At the Manse, Lonmay, Mrs Gibbon [wife of Rev. Charles Gibbon, D.D.,—Ann Duff, eldest daughter of Rev. Robert Duff, D.D., Minister of King-Edward].

11th December. At Stonehaven, Rev. James Drummond, Minister of the parish of Glenbervie, in his 84th year.

17th December. At the Manse, Alvah, Rev. Andrew Todd, D.D., Minister of Alvah, aged 69.

25th December. At Footdee, Aberdeen, Catherine Douglas, wife of William Hall, Shipbuilder, in her 48th year.

Queries.

541. Francis Leys of Glasgoforest.—Who were the parents of Francis Leys of Glasgoforest, whose son, Thomas Leys, was Provost of Aberdeen in 1797-98 and 1803-4?

C. M.

542. Rev. John Abel, Echt.—Who were his parents, and when and where was he born?

M.

543. Dr Gordon.—A very pithy and pertinent adage of the present day runs—"If you want a thing done do it yourself." A perfect exemplification of this maxim will be found in "Blackwood's Magazine" for December, 1819, in probably the first contribution to that serial (then in its infancy) by "Delta," the accomplished Dr Moir, of Musselburgh. The article is entitled a "Letter Relative to the late Dr Gordon," who had evidently died during that year, and who is extolled as a physiologist, having "philosophical discernment, and unwearied research, combined with an extent of general information and scholastic attainments." Dr Gordon had received the honours of a public funeral, and the Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh had voted a sum to provide a bust of him to be placed in their hall of meeting. "Delta" bitterly complained that there had been no account given of the life and writings of "the late inestimable Dr Gordon," and stated with sorrow and humiliation that in a neighbouring and rival country (England) Gordon's merit would have been better appreciated. He asked if Jeffrey, Thomson, Brewster, or Tytler could not do justice to the memory of their departed friend? What "Delta" should have done there and then was to have supplied the biographical sketch desiderated, as he had derived great benefit during an attendance of years on Gordon's public prelections, and from the perusal of his published works; but "Delta" was a very young man then, and modestly did not wish to encroach upon the privileges of his seniors. He ought to have given an outline of the career of Dr Gordon, whom he "revered and to whom he owed so much": but he did not; the opportunity was lost, and Dr Gordon simply remains a memory obscured, and nothing more. I do not even know his Christian name.

Dr Gordon's biography will not be found in the collections of eminent Scotsmen, search through Chambers, Anderson, Irving, and even George Smith's mammoth "Dictionary of British Biography," and you will not find him there, although he ought to have been included. Will Mr J. M. Bulloch, who has done so much in elucidating the history of the Gordons, oblige with a sketch of this Scottish worthy who is so undeservedly forgotten? Perhaps he has written this particular biography already, but having read few of his books and publications must be my excuse for preferring this request. What were the titles of Dr Gordon's medical works which "Delta" eulogises?

Thomas L. Work.

Melbourne, Australia.

544. Dalmaik Manse.—Could some correspondent kindly say whether the old manse at Dalmaik, now used as a fishing lodge, was the

birthplace of James Gregory, the celebrated mathematician?

QUIZNUNCLE.

545. REV. PATRICK COPLAND, CUSHNIE.—Whom did Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. Patrick Copland, marry? Her sister Agnes married on 22nd October 1702, William Forbes of Bucham, Strathdon.

C. M.

546. REV. CHARLES M'HARDY OF CRATHIE AND BRAEMAR.—Charles M'Hardy in Coolach married on 24th November, 1741, Isabella Michie, Cluny. Were they the parents of Rev. Charles M'Hardy, whose wife, I understand, was Clementina, daughter of George Forbes of Culquhanny, and his wife Margaret, daughter of William Forbes of Bucham?

M.

Answers.

523. HOME AND HORNE FAMILIES.—Rev. James Horne, some time minister of Bellie, and afterwards of Elgin, purchased the property of Westhall, Oyne, in 1674, from John Campbell of Moye. Nine years later he acquired the lands and barony of Pitmedden. He married Isabella, daughter of John Leslie, seventh laird of Pitcaple, and John Horne, the elder of their two sons, succeeded. He added considerably to his estates, and in 1728 secured a Crown charter, erecting the lands and barony of Pitmedden, and the lands of Ardoyn, Buchanstone, Old Rayne, including the burgh (a burgh of barony), and Westhall, etc., into a free barony, to be called the barony of Horn. The place-name Horn was continued, the Elphinstones being designed of "Horn and Logie-Elphinstone." It has to be pointed out, however, that the name Home was also fairly common in Oyne as early as 1696, the Poll Book showing that James Holme was tenant in Bridge End, Patrick Holme was tenant of Bogend, while James Holme was servant to George Mortimer in Raitie, John Holme was servant to Patrick Thomson at Mill of Westhall, and Elspet Holme was wife of George Walker, Bogend. The following particulars from four headstones at Oyne appear in Henderson's "Aberdeenshire Epitaphs and Inscriptions," I., p. 115:—

John Home, farmer in Little Westhall, died 21st July, 1837, aged 61. Sarah Ross, his spouse, died at Fielding, 9th December, 1875, aged 80. James Home, died at Fielding, 2nd March, 1839, in his 74th year; and his two children, Hellen and Sarah, died in infancy. Alexander Home, for many years postmaster and farmer, Headhouse, Old Rain, died 6th April, 1840, aged 55. His wife, Ann Emslie, died 4th October, 1855, aged 60. Their eldest son, Walter Davidson Home, farmer and miller, Old Rain, died 29th May, 1857, aged 31. Their second son, Alexander Home, merchant, Old Rain, died 30th March, 1855, aged 27. Margaret Home, wife of William Cruickshank, Mill of Old Rain, died 8th September, 1828, aged 56; and James Home, farmer, Barreldykes, Rayne, died 3rd April, 1839, aged 52.

E.

524. PHESDO.—This estate was purchased by Sir John Gladstone in 1845 from the late Alexander Crombie, whose relative acquired it about 1805 from Captain George Falconer—one of the Haulkerton family. Captain Falconer had previously sold Phesdo and other lands to Dr John Mackenzie of Drumtenightie, in liferent. The sale to Mr Crombie had apparently been carried through on the expiry of that liferent.

R. T. M.

This Kincardineshire estate was purchased by the late Sir John Gladstone of Fasque in 1845. It was previously acquired about the beginning of the century by Alexander Crombie, advocate, from the heirs and descendants of Sir John Falconer, Lord of Session, and his wife, Elizabeth Trent, who, when a widow, was known as Lady Phesdo, and died in 1748.

A. C. C.

526. LAURENCEKIRK SNUFF BOXES.—Charles Stiven was born in 1753 in the parish of Glenbervie, where he carried on the business of making snuff boxes, etc., and in 1783 he was induced by Lord Gardenstone to remove to Laurencekirk.

R. T. M.

Charles Stiven, a native of Glenbervie, born in 1753, began the manufacture in his native parish, and at the instance of Lord Gardenstone, a great snuffer, transferred his business to Laurencekirk in 1783.

A. C. C.

No. 127.—September 21, 1910.

The Cairnwell Road.

(Continued.)

About seven or eight miles from the starting point the Cluny is again crossed by Shanspittal Bridge, which was erected when the new road was made in 1859-61. From Fraser's Brig to this point the road keeps the same track as the old military road, but for a considerable distance onward from Shanspittal the road diverges from the older one. At this point another right-of-way path strikes off for Glenisla, through the deer forest of Caenlochan. The old military road continued up the right bank of the Cluny to the junction of the Cairnwell Burn and the Alt Gharbh Choire, where it crossed by the old Shanspittal Bridge. This is a small, hoary-looking structure of one arch, and there is reason to believe that it was built long before the military road was made. It is said that Donald Farquharson, grandson of William, the first laird of Coldrach, had an amour with a country girl, and as a penance was ordered to build the Shanspittal Bridge. In the Broughdearg MS. this Donald is recorded to have been murdered by a robber. Now, Alexander Farquharson, author of the Broughdearg MS., was the son of Robert Farquharson, who was killed in an encounter with the M'Combies at the Moss of Forfar on 28th January, 1673. The bridge must therefore have been built before, or during, Alexander Farquharson's lifetime, and almost certainly before the end of the seventeenth century.

From this point the military road kept pretty close to the side of the Cairnwell burn, until it joined the present road considerably higher up. On this part a grim tragedy took place. After the '45 the garrison in Mar Castle was commanded by "Muckle" Captain Miller, and, as this officer's lady drew near her confinement, he resolved to remove her to more civilised quarters. He therefore mounted the lady on a horse behind him, and, seeking no escort, set out for Rhindorroch, in Glenshee, on his southward journey. A bloodthirsty Jacobite, known as the "Ephiteach," or Egyptian, becoming apprised of this, laid himself in ambush, and shot Captain Miller in the saddle beside his wife. That good dame does not appear to have taken her bereavement very sorely to heart, for, while the "Ephiteach" was escorting her to her destination, she proposed marriage to him. The latter—ruffian although he was—expressed surprise at the extraordinary proposal under such circumstances. "There is nothing extraordinary about it," answered the lady, "for Captain Miller killed my first husband." "Muckle" Miller's grave can still be pointed out by the roadside.

From Shanspittal Bridge the ascent is steep, until a comparatively level space near the very summit is reached. On a green space below the road may be seen the ruins of what looks like a shelling, but which was in reality a blacksmith's forge, erected for the convenience of the roadmakers in 1859. At a sharp turn stands a triangular danger signal. Here a few years ago an unfortunate cyclist lost control of his machine, and, failing to take the turn, was dashed to death on the rocks of the burn below.

On the level near the summit the coach horses are refreshed with a drink of water from a small rivulet, a pail being kept for the purpose during the coaching season. Near this is the Cateran's Howe, where, in 1672, a bloody encounter took place between those marauders and the parties they had robbed. The raiders were routed, their spoil regained, and the bodies of their slain interred in a grassy space near the watering-place.

A short distance farther on, at the very edge of the road, is the Queen's Well, where the late Queen Victoria refreshed herself when journeying over this route. Near here, in byegone times, those seeking the more westerly Highlands struck off over the wild mountain tops. Here, on one occasion, Donald Mhor, a Highland freebooter, cleverly gave his pursuers the slip. He had driven off a considerable number of cattle from the vicinity of Braemar, and proceeded up Glen Cluny. The alarm was raised, and by the time he approached the top of the Cairnwell, his pursuers were close behind. A dense mist, however, descended, and under its cover Donald turned his spoil to the westward, at the same time sending his piper along the Glenshee road alone. Wondering why the kerne had taken this unwonted route, but assured by the strains of the bagpipes, the men of Mar followed the music. By this ruse Donald escaped with his spoil, but the result was disastrous to the poor piper!

A short distance now brings us to the boundary line between the counties of Aberdeen and Perth. The altitude is 2200 feet—the highest point on any coach road in Britain. From here to underneath the Devil's Elbow, about half a mile farther on, the old military road nearer the bottom of the corry can easily be traced. An older road struck up the corry on the right, and, crossing the intervening ridge, joined the military and present roads near the county boundary.

The descent into Glen Beag now opening out is very steep, and soon brings us to the famous Devil's Elbow. In the Elbow itself the gradient is one in nine. This remarkable piece of road somewhat resembles the letter "Z," and provides two acute turns in very short space. In fact, a straight line, less than a hundred yards long, would intersect the road three times. Why it should ever have been made, or why it should have been allowed to remain unaltered so long is difficult to understand. Certainly it is capable of being improved upon. When was the Devil's Elbow made? Assuredly not in the days of General

Wade, for the military road is here quite distinct, nor do the alterations begun in 1859 appear to have been continued beyond the county boundary. It appears likely that the Elbow was formed in or about 1829. Mr Charles Watson, proprietor of the Invercauld Arms Hotel, Braemar, having died in that year, his sister, Mrs Clark of Invergelder, entered into possession in May, 1829. Another brother, Thomas Watson, was at the same time hotel-keeper at Spittal of Glenshee. It would appear that brother and sister originated the still existing coach service between Perth and Braemar, and at the same time effected various repairs and improvements on the Cairnwell road, the Devil's Elbow among the rest

The descent is now rapid, and in a short time Rhindorroch is reached. This is now the only house in Glen Beag, which, according to tradition, once supported a teeming population. In fact, traces of the homes and pursuits of its vanished inhabitants are plentifully apparent. The grassy, meadow land stretching well up the hillside, and enclosed by a "ring-dyke," shows ample signs of cultivation, while heaps of stones, removed in the reclamation of the land, and the "larachs" of homesteads meet the eye in profusion. Even when fully populated, Rhindorroch was the first house by the wayside on the road over the Cairnwell, and a lively place it must have been, when many of the travellers rested and refreshed themselves after their long and toilsome journey. As already stated, the Cairnwell Road was the most direct and most frequented artery of traffic between the north and the south. By "Shank's mare," or horseback were the only means of travelling, and consequently direct routes were the most patronised. Traffic was drawn from as far north as Inverness-shire, and huge droves of cattle regularly passed over the Cairnwell on their way from Muir of Ord to the famous Falkirk "Trysts." By this way too, the drovers returned, after the stock under their charge had been disposed of, on which occasions they were expected to retrace their steps at the average rate of forty miles per day.

From Rhindorroch to Spital of Glenshee the distance is three miles, without habitation or house of any kind intervening. On the right an old peat road may be observed winding its way up one of the corries. Just where this track leaves the north road, a band of Glenshee men, on their way for peats, on one occasion happened to meet a number of Braemar men conveying timber to the southern market. A wordy warfare existed between the inhabitants of the two districts, and the former party subjected the latter to a good deal of uncomplimentary badinage. Stung by their taunts, Gillespie Urrasach—a warlike Braemar man—drew his dirk, and springing after the Glenshee men, cut the girths of every horse in the party, and tumbled their "currachs" downhill.

Immediately before reaching the Spittal proper, there is passed on the right the church of Glenshee. This edifice is said to have been originally built in the centre of the population, but it is now at the remote upper extremity. In all probability Glen Beag and Glen Lochsie, which opens out on the right, in the direction of Glen Tilt, were fully populated when the church was built, which condition would at once secure for it the position claimed.

Grant, in his "Braes o' Mar," gives from "Chambers's Journal" the following somewhat remarkable notice of the Church of Glenshee. No date is mentioned, but the period referred to is probably the end of the eighteenth century:—"About thirty years ago, I first visited the Spital of Glenshee, and, at that time, I had never seen a greater curiosity than the place of worship there. It is a chapel of ease belonging to a parish called Kirkmichael, is built with stone and lime, and the roof is flagged with slate. The door was locked, but both the windows were wide open, without either glass or frame, so that one stepped as easily in at the windows as at the door. There were no seats, but here and there a big stone placed, and as things of great luxury, there were two or three sticks laid from one of these to another. The floor was literally paved with human bones, and I saw that the dogs had gnawed the ends of many of them by way of amusing themselves in the time of worship. There were also hundreds of human teeth, while in the north-west corner of the chapel there was an open grave, which had stood so for nearly three months. It had been made in the preceding December for a young man, who had died in the braes of Angus, but it came on such a terrible storm that they could not bring the corpse, so they buried him where he was, and left this grave standing ready for the next. When the service was over, the minister gathered the collection for the poor on the green in the crown of his hat, and neither men nor women thought of dispersing, but stood in clubs about the chapel, conversing, some of them for upwards of an hour. I have seen many people who appeared to pay more attention to the service, but I never saw any who appeared to enjoy the crack after sermon so much."

On the right, above the church, towers Ben Gulabein (2641 feet), which, along with its immediate surroundings, is rich in Ossianic lore. Many place names, such as the Bear's Bed, Bear's Loch, Diarmid's Grave, Tobar-na-Fiann, etc., bear reference to Fingalian tradition.

The Spittal of Glenshee, now a well equipped modern hotel, has been for ages a place of entertainment for travellers. The name "Spittal"—a corruption of "Hospital"—is not altogether uncommon, and places bearing the denomination are generally to be found by dangerous mountain roads. It is said that at a remote period the Knights Hospitallers had a station here, and performed such services as are now discharged by the monks of St Bernard on the Alps. Again, in the reign of Queen Mary, this district was infested with large and numerous bands of ravening wolves, and we are told that at that period "spittals," or shelters, had to be provided for the protection of

belated travellers. To either or both of these causes the present name may be due.

The first stage of the coach journey is now completed. The distance is fifteen miles, and, as already stated, has the distinction of including the highest point attained by any coaching road in Britain. The scenery is almost throughout bleak, bare, and mountainous, but to those acquainted with its past history, the road is far from being an uninteresting one. At Spittal horses are changed, and the journey resumed to Blairgowrie—a distance of twenty miles. Another change of horses, and the third and last stage of the journey is entered upon. As before mentioned, the terminus was formerly Dunkeld, eleven miles from Blairgowrie, but this year the coach runs to Perth, as it did to begin with, which puts an additional five miles to the last coaching stage. Thus the whole journey from Braemar to Perth covers a distance of fifty-one miles, but with the remaining stages it is not my purpose at present to deal.

David Grewar, F.S.A. (Scot.).

Nine Maidens' Well.

There is more than one well with this name, and there is no tradition to account for it. Perhaps the original form had been in Gaelic—Tobar Nigheachain, well of washing. Tobar, well; nigheachain, genitive of nigheachan, washing. This name would have been applicable to a well whose water was free from carbonate of lime, and therefore valued for washing clothes. Ch in nigheachain sounds h, and is liable to be dropped out, and nigheaain would then resemble in sound nigheann, the genitive plural of nigheann, maiden, and both words would resemble the English word nine. Hence in post-Gaelic time the connection of the well with washing might have been forgotten, and it might have been associated with both nine and maidens.

John Milne, LL.D.

Gordons in Wodrow's MSS.

Genealogists may be glad to know that the Wodrow Collections of MSS. in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh, contain the following documents (most of them unpublished) dealing with members of the Gordon family:—

Mr Charles Gordon, minister at Campvere. His examination before the Chancellor, 1688. 4to 34, 22.

Alexander Gordon, of Carleton. Protest and Declinature by him: 1689. Folio 33-14.

Mr Alexander Gordon. Account of Assembly at St Andrews, 1651. 8vo. 5-3.

Gordon of Garvarie. Account of his sufferings, 1655 onwards. 4to. 37-68.

Gordon of Holme, etc. Order to Serjeant Persie to quarter his 15 Dragoons on Lady Holme's lands of Mackartnay. 1682. Folio. 33, 4, 6

John Gordon of Knokbrex. Declaration and Testimony by him and others on the day they suffered at Edinburgh, 1666. Folio, 60-43.

Mr John Gordon, minister at Elgin. Process against him before Commission of Assembly, 1639. Folio, 63, 63.

Mr John Gordon, cousin of George, Earl of Huntly, Ratification of his appointment to Bishopric of Whithorn and Abbey of Tungland, 1567-8. Folio, 50-94.

Margaret Gordon. Letter from her to her son—Mr R. Wyllie, 1679. 4to. 30, 44.

Robert Gordon of Garvarie. Accounts of his sufferings, and of his brothers. (n.d.), 4to. 40, 62.

Robert Gordon of Knokbrex. Letter from him to Thomas Wyllie, 1645. 4to. 29, 25.

William Gordon of Dunguench. Account of his losses. 4to. 37-43.

—— Gordon of Robertown, parish of Borgue. Account of his and his family's sufferings, 1711. 4to, 37, 32.

Mr James Gordon, Merchant in Rotterdam, letter to him (unsigned). 1678. Folio, 59, 71; letter (unsigned), 1678. Folio, 63, 15.

Mr James Gordon, afterwards minister at St Andrews. Letter from him to his daughter Jean, 1680, with paper on public grievances. Folio, 59, 130, 131. [Son of Alexander Gordon of Salterhill—he was minister of Combe. He has been described at length by J. M. Bulloch in the "Banffshire Herald," Keith, August 20, 27, and September 3 and 10, 1910.]

John Gordon of Bar. Account of his losses, 1666 onwards. Folio, 40, 32.

John Gordon of Cardiness. Letter from him to Mr D. Wyllie, 1646. 40-23-20.

Hew Scott, of "Fasti" Fame.

Close on forty years ago there was published, in large quarto volumes, a work of singular interest and value to all who concern themselves with the history and affairs of the Church of Scotland. To be sure, it is known chiefly to students and to those whose business it is to burrow among old records connected with the Church. But the General Assembly have officially recognised it as a work which is to be brought down to date under its auspices, and a strong committee, with Rev. W. S. Crockett, of Tweedsmuir, as convener, have been engaged for some time in collecting the necessary material for that purpose. It was reported to the 1910 Assembly that substantial progress was being made, and the hope was expressed that within two or three years the work would be finished.

Briefly described, the "Fasti" gives a notice, more or less complete, of every minister who has held office in the Church of Scotland from 1560 to 1839, the year of the author's settlement. The author was Hew Scott, and because his labours deserve more general recognition than they have received I wish to place him for a little on the borders of the living land. The story of his life is brief, but it is both curious and stimulating. Hew Scott was an admirable

illustration of the pursuit of knowledge under difficulties. His father was a gauger, who had seen Prince Charlie in Glasgow in 1745 "walking with the steps of a king." Hew was born in Haddington in 1791. He took to learning early, and had a fair command of Latin before he was 10. "You'll be a minister yet," they told him, and he hugged the ambition to his heart.

Unfortunately, his father had died, and the family were left penniless. But a little shop was opened in Haddington, and after Hew had tramped all the way to Edinburgh and back to attend the University, he would be found behind the counter or perhaps selling stationery from door to door. Thus the struggle continued until, on 2nd December, 1816, he obtained his M.A. degree, not from Edinburgh—he was too poor for that—but from the more frugal Senatus of King's College, Aberdeen. Meanwhile he had been "taken up" by Thomas Thomson, the antiquary, who employed him to collate the old ecclesiastical MSS. in the Register House at Edinburgh. This was work congenial to his taste, and he did it with such zeal that he used to be pointed out to Register House visitors as the "peripatetic index."

All the time he was pursuing his studies for the ministry. "I held on the road, though I did not see when or where it was to end," he used to say. When at last he was licensed by the Presbytery of Haddington, no church seemed to want him, and he was ordained to a Canadian mission. There would probably have been no "Fasti" if he had gone to Canada. But he did not go. David Laing, the distinguished antiquary, met him just as he was about to embark, and persuaded him to stay. Laing was justified in his hopes. Scott became, in turn, assistant at Garvald, Ladykirk, Cockpen, and Temple; and then in 1838 he was preferred to the charge at West Anstruther, where he remained till his death in July, 1872.

It is to the historian of Anstruther, Mr George Gourlay, that we owe the most interesting facts about his career. No one, Mr Gourlay tells us, could be more laborious in the duties of the ministry. Once a year he visited every house in the parish, the Isle of May not excepted. His stipend was under £200 a year, but the habits of his youth clung to him, and he died worth about £9000. The local gossips speculated much about his hoard, for they were witness of his miserly ways. No nail or potato or turnip or piece of coal was ever left on the road by Hew Scott. Dr Charles Rogers, who knew him well, declared that he never bought writing paper, but wrote all the "Fasti" on letter backs.

He used turned envelopes for his correspondence, a fact which was clearly proved when his escritoire was opened after his death and disclosed nearly 2000 envelopes all reversed, "the stamp, address, etc., being in the inside, according to which the old economist had been in the habit of refolding the covers of his correspondence for future use." Mr Gourlay hints that he was the hero of the story, told by Dr William Chambers, about a minister who married the schoolmaster's widow for the sake of the dead dominie's new coat. In temperament he was hot and choleric, and impatient of all innovations. He once made a grab at his precentor's locks over the pulpit because the precentor had dared to start a "repeat" tune; and he declined ever again to preach in a church where he found that they closed the service with the singing of the Doxology.

Such was the author of the "Fasti." And what labour that monumental work cost him! It is authentically stated that he personally visited every parish in Scotland to examine the session and Presbytery records. As he stood shivering and wet at the manse door he was often mistaken for a beggar, and was sometimes frightened away by the watch dog! He received very little encouragement, though he liked to quote the words of Dr Chalmers, a native of Anstruther—"Go on, Mr Scott, go on; the unborn will bless you, sir; it is the work I would so like to do." And thus the "Fasti" came into being, a work which, on the score of exhaustiveness, has no parallel in ecclesiastical biography.

From first to last it was a labour of love. Scott hoped to get it printed as one of the volumes of the Maitland Club, but in this he was disappointed. He gave £200 towards the cost of its production, and he was bitterly chagrined at the meagre sale. He lived to be rewarded only by the coveted D.D. from St Andrews. He corrected the last proof on December 31, 1871. "My work is done," he remarked sadly as he closed the packet. And so it proved.

J. Cuthbert Hadden.

—"Glasgow Herald," August 13, 1910.

Exceptional Banff Marriage Announcement.

April 1764. In the parish of Banff, John Lied, aged 65, to Mary Lawrence, aged 73. The bride was one of thirty-one children, by one father and mother, nine of whom were born at three births. She had £60 of portion, £30 of which was laid up as a provision for the children of the marriage.—"Scots Magazine," April, 1764.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1868.

5th January. At 4 Bon-Accord Terrace, Aberdeen, in the morning, Isabella Davidson; and in the evening, her husband, Alexander Sim, Esq., late of Bank of Scotland Branch, Aberdeen.

13th January. At Glack, Christina, daughter of the late Roderick Mackenzie, Esq. of Glack, aged 58.

12th February. At Cambridge, suddenly, the Hon. James Henry Gordon, second son of the late Earl of Aberdeen, aged 22.

21st February. At 11 Golden Square, Aberdeen, Sarah Fraser [daughter of Rev. William Fraser, Tyrie], relict of Donaldson Rose of Hazlehead, aged 77.

26th February. At 14 Golden Square, Aberdeen, Christian Aberdein, relict of Rev. Dr Foote, Minister of the Free East Church, in her 91st year.

26th February. At the Hermitage, Harrow Weald, Katharine Frances, aged 45, second daughter of the late Charles David Gordon of Abergeldie, and wife of Duncan Davidson of Tillychetly, late of Her Majesty's Bombay Civil Service.

13th March. At the Manse, Lumphanan, Elizabeth Lamond [eldest daughter of Hary Lamond of Pitmurchie], wife of Rev. Charles M'Combie, LL.D., Minister of the parish, aged 46.

4th April. At the Manse, Tarland, Rev. James Watson, Minister of Tarland and Migvie, in his 62nd year.

23rd April. At 5 Albert Street, Major William Gibb, late H.E.I.C.S., aged 62.

1st May. At Richmond, the Right Hon. Walter, Lord Forbes, in his 70th year.

20th May. At Banchory House, Alexander Thomson, Esq. of Banchory, aged 70.

24th May. At 19 Mount Street, Aberdeen, Jeannie Sherriffs, aged 27, wife of Mr J. S. Stuart, Great North of Scotland Railway Company.

19th May. At the Manse, Fochabers, Alice, third daughter of the late Rev. Alexander Cushny, Minister at Oyne, in her 71st year.

30th May. At Indego, Ann Swete, wife of Andrew Robertson, Esq. of Hopewell, aged 68.

6th June. At Aberdeen, Rev. Alexander Allan, formerly of Monymusk.

8th June. At 85 Crown Street, Mrs Isabella Robertson, widow of Dr John Gordon, of Keith, aged 72.

4th June. At 20 Melville Street, Edinburgh, Georgina, wife of George Skene, Esq. of Rubislaw.

12th June. At Aberdeen, David S. Brotchie, A.M.

17th June. At 3 Mary Place, Aberdeen, John Laing, M.D., A.M., late of Auchmull.

7th July. At the Manse, Monymusk, aged 85, Isabella Ann Mearns, daughter of the late Rev. Alexander Mearns, Minister at Cluny.

25th July. At Oldtown, Kennethmont, Peter Mathieson, Schoolmaster, aged 65.

8th August. At Newton, Alexander Gordon, Esq. of Newton, in his 65th year.

22nd August. At 17 High Street, Old Aberdeen, Alexander W. Chalmers, R.N., aged 37, last surviving son of the late A. W. Chalmers, Governor of the Prisons.

3rd September. At 18 Rubislaw Terrace, Robert Maclure, LL.D., Professor of Humanity, Aberdeen University.

14th September. At Aberdeen, George Gordon M'Lean, M.D., late Professor of Oriental Languages, Marischal College.

13th September. At 86 Skene Square, Rev. James Cordiner, Minister of Charlotte Street U.P. Church, aged 29.

11th September. At Ben Rhydding, William Chambers Hunter, Esq. of Tillery.

26th September. At 8 Nelson Street, George Ramage, late Teacher Dr Bell's School, Old Aberdeen, aged 66.

8th October. At Drumduan House, Banchory-Devenick, William Mitchell, late Bookseller, Aberdeen.

7th October. At Redhall, Kincardineshire, Lexey Mactaggart, wife of John Carnegie, Esq. of Redhall.

1st November. At 3 Adelphi, William Walker, Wine Merchant, aged 70.

6th November. At the Manse, Boharm, Rev. Alexander Murdoch, Minister of that parish, aged 63.

25th November. At Fochabers, aged 85, Margaret, daughter of the late Rev. Francis Forbes, Minister of Grange.

4th December. At 15 Rubislaw Terrace, Thomas Todd, aged 64.

10th December. At 7 Strawberry Bank, Jessie Gray, wife of Mr Robert Kemp, Grain Merchant, Aberdeen.

8th December. At 14 Cross Street, Fraserburgh, Mr John Anderson, aged 79. Deceased had been precentor in Fraserburgh for the long period of . . . [nearly sixty years].

26th December. At 154 Crown Street, Agnes Blaikie Somner, wife of Robert Dryadale, Secretary, Union Bank.

26th December. At Balnagask, Alexander Davidson, Esq. of Balnagask, in his 83rd year.

26th December. At the Parsonage, Deer, Rev. William Arthur Ranken, Incumbent of St Luke's, Cuminestown, aged 26.

6th December. At Meean Meer, India, George MacIver Campbell, M.A., M.B., Assistant Surgeon, 85th King's Light Infantry Regiment, eldest son of Peter Colin Campbell, D.D., Principal of the University of Aberdeen, aged 26.

30th December. At Binghill, James Alexander Kyle, Esq., aged 56.

Queries.

546A. George Forbes of Ledmacoy, Strathdon.—Whom did Mr George Forbes (born 1684, died 21st January, 1774) marry, and who were his parents? Was he the father of George Forbes of Ledmacoy, who died in Aberdeen in

September, 1784, and whose wife was Ann Michie?

M.

547. The Family of Roy.—William Gordon, Provost of Forres, married Jean (or Isobel) Roy, who died at Forres in 1791, aged 85. What relation, if any, was she to Robert Roy, W.S. (1796-1873), who was the son of James Roy, surgeon at Fort-George?

J. M. Bulloch.

548. James Michie, Tullochcoy.—James Michie married, on 29th April, 1750, Christian, daughter of Alastair Farquharson of Auchindryne and Tullocheoy. Had they any family, and if so, what were their names?

C. M.

549. Jopp Family.—I have been lent a pedigree by Mrs Eastwich Field, which states that Eliza Jemima Morris (born 1809), married in 1832 —— Jopp, and had eight children. She was the daughter of Thomas Morris by his wife Mary King, one of the beautiful daughters of John King of Pullenham, near Guildford. Did this Jopp belong to the Aberdeen family?

J. M. Bulloch.

550. John Chalmers of Westfield.—Who were the parents of Agnes Forbes (born 1744; died 28th April, 1828), wife of Mr Chalmers?

C. M.

551. Falconer of Lintram.—What is known of this family? Did Captain Falconer, of the Bombay Army, who married Eliza Macdonell, belong to it?

J. M. Bulloch.

552. Rev. John Lawrence.—Rev. T. C. Dale, 115 London Road, Croydon, desires particulars of the ancestry or parentage of the Rev. John Laurence or Lawrence, who was vicar of Nassington, Northants, 1662; vicar of St Martin's, Stamford, 1666; died 1700. His will, dated May 10th, 1700, was proved at Lincoln, 1710. He married at Stibbington, Hants, on January 6, 1662-3, Elizabeth, daughter of Jr. Stubbs, of Nassington, by his wife Elizabeth daughter of George Barnwell, of Rochester.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

553. Rev. William Mitchell. — Rev. William Mitchell, minister at Leyden, married, on 10th June, 1754, Janet Michie, Aberdeen. Particulars as to parentage and descendants would oblige.

M.

Answers.

508. Wearing of Gowns by Provosts and Magistrates.—A motion for providing the Lord Provost and Magistrates of Aberdeen with official robes was negatived on 29th October, 1885. But an official robe for the Lord Provost was agreed to on 6th June, 1887—and possibly robes for the magistrates then, or very shortly after.

A.

522. Alexander Mitchell, Deskrie.—Mitchell, who was a merchant in Aberdeen, died before 1st February, 1816. His daughter Margaret died at Aberdeen 24th January, 1824.

D. B.

No. 128.—September 28, 1910.

Quaint Marriage Settlement.

Marriage settlements between members of our county families, going back a century or two, are not uncommon; but it is seldom that we come across a settlement of this character between parties belonging to the farming community. The following copy of a settlement which has been kindly supplied to us by a well-known antiquarian, with all obscure contractions written out in full, so as to make it readable, is particularly interesting:—

At Abirdein the Twentie day of December Anno ImVIc. and sextein yeirs [1616] It is appoyntit contractit faythfullie obleist endit and agreit betwixt Johnne Alshioner elder in Over Angustoun for himself and takand the burding on him for Jon Alshioner his lawfull sone and als the said Jon Alshioner Yr. for himself with his said father's consent on the ane pairt and Johnne Kirk in Edistoun for himself and takand the burding on him for Elisoun Kirk his lawfull dochter and als the said Elisoun with hir said father's consent on the uther pairt In maner forme and effect eftir following That are to say the said Jon Alshioner younger with consent of his said father obleissis him faithfullie God willing to marie and tak to his lawfull wyff the said Elisoune Kirk and the said Elison to accept the said Jon for hir lawfull husband and thay to accomplishe the honorabill band of mariage togidder and thaireftir to love treit and intertene uthers as becumes Crisiaines. And the said mariage to be performit in face of holie kirk as use is betwixt and the first day of Februar nixt to cum.

For the quhilk cause and mariage to be performit as said is the said Jon Kirk obleissis him faithfullie his airs executors and assigneis for the help and support of the said Jon Alshioner Younger and the said Elisone Kirk his future spous. To pay and delyuer to the said Jon and his said future spouse the equall half of ten oxin, the equall half of four horss to be lottit and cassin be cavills as falls be lot, with twa of the best ky, ane tymmer bed and ane beding clais, ane pot ane pan worth ten merks, the secund best girnell of the fir girnells within the said Jon Kirks biging of Edistoun and that immediatlie eftir the compleiting of the said mariage.

And als gives grants and dispones to the said Jon Alshioner Younger and his said spous the just and equall half of the said Jon Kirk his tak and rowm of Ediston quhilk the said Jon Kirk hes in set of the richt honorabill Alexr. Irving of Drum with the equall half of the bigingis, commoun pastour and uther liberteis toftis croftis and yeards, and that yeirlie and ay and so lang as the said Jon Kirk happins to be tenent of the said rowm with the equall half of the pleuche and pleuche geir and equall half of the doors loks and bands as thei presentlie stand sua that the said Jon Kirk gives bot onlie his kyndnes and guid will of the said equall half sa lang as he is tenent. And the said tak to be equallie devydit be Jon Tailzeor in Robertston and Alexr. Anderson at the Walk Mill of Drum baith outseitis inseitis and bigingis. And to enter on the equall half of the biging at the feist and terme of Witsonday Anno ImVIc. and sewintein yeirs [1617], And the said Jon Kirk obleissis him to saw the haill rowm crop and yeir of God sex hundrethe and sewintein yeirs to cum upoun his awin charges and expensis. And how soone the said crop is win led and shorne the said Jon Kirk obleissis him and his foirsaids to delyuer to the said Jon Alshioner and his said future spous fyve scoir bolls aitis with the fodder the said crop pairt and pairt lyke of gryt aits, small aits and blaudit aits as growis one the ground frie of all charges and expensis, and fra thyne furthe the said rowme to be equallie laborit betwixt the said Jon Kirk Jon Alshioner and his said future spous and with their owin guids and geir sa lang as thei may obtein richt and guidwill of the laird of the ground and to pey the equall dewetie of the fermes dewetie and seruice to the said laird of the ground and to relive uthers pairt and pairt lyke.

It is agreit that the said Jon Alshioner and his said future spous sall haue intertenement in the said Jon Kirks hous quhill Bartholday nixt to cum at the quhilk tyme thei sall tak up their awin hous by thameselffis and the said fyve scoir bolls aits to be frie of ony ferme or dewetie at the lairds hands lykwayis. And the said Jon Alshioner elder for his pairt with consent and assent of the said Jon Alshioner his son binds and faythfullie obliges him his airs executors and assigneis to pey to the said Jon Kirk his airs executors and assigneis to his awin particuler weill for outred of his advis all and haill the soume of thrie hundrethe merks usuall Scotis money in penny and penny worthes at the termes respective underwretin. To wit the soume of Ane hundrethe merks thairof upoun Witsonday ewin in Anno Im. sex hundrethe and auchtein yeirs, the soum of Ane uther hundrethe merks money thairof upoun Witsonday ewin nixt thaireftir in Anno Im. sex hundrethe and nynetein yeirs. And the soum of ane uther hundrethe merks money foirsaid in compleit peyment of the said haill soume betwixt that and Witsonday ewin nixt thaireftir in Anno Im. sex hundrethe and twentie yeirs. Togidder with the soum of twentie punds money ilk terme in cais of failzie. And last of all the said Jon Kirk obliges him to outrig his said dochter in apparrell honestlie as effeirs according to his estait.

[Here follows clause of registration, testing clause, etc.]

Helen, Lady Banff.

In going over some documents relating to members of the Banff family in the eighteenth century, the original will of Helen, widow of George, fourth Lord Banff, dated Banff, June 6, 1741, was lit upon. A verbatim copy is published in the "Banffshire Journal" as follows:—

"We Helen Lady Banff Relict of the Right Honourable George Lord Banff deceas'd, being for the present by God's Blessing in Health of Body and sound in Mind, Memory, and Judgment, But considering the Frailty of human Life, the Certainty of Death and Uncertainty of the Time and manner thereof, Are therefore resolved to order our affairs so in our own Lifetime, as all Differences, which may fall out thereanent after our Death, may be obviated and prevented, and for that purpose to make this our Latterwill and Testament as follows Vizt—

"In the first place We recommend our soul to God Almighty our Creator, hoping to be saved by the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord and only Redeemer, And we hereby will and ordain our Body, when it shall please God to call us to be decently, privately, and frugally interred in the Church of Banff, in the Grave and Burial Place of the said deceas'd Lord Banff sometime our Husband, and our Funeralls to be gone about and managed in such a manner as is directed and ordered by a Note or Writing under our hand left herewith wrapt up herein relative thereto, And the same to be punctually and precisely followed and obeyed, at the sight and direction of Mrs Katharine Campbell Lady Craig, Mrs Jean Stewart, Relict of Patrick Ogilvie, Merchant in Banff and Mrs Jean Brodie, spouse of Mr James Innes, Minister of the Gospel at Banff, or any of them who shall be in Life at the Time, To whom we hereby commit the Care of our Body upon our Death-Bed, and will and desire that no Person or Persons offer to come near our Corpse after our Death, except those who shall be specially called and invited by them.

"And as to our worldly Estate We settle the same as follows Vizt We hereby make, nominate, constitute and appoint Alexander now Lord Banff our Son and Mr William Congleton, Advocate, to be our sole and only Executors and universal Intromittors with the whole Goods, Gear, Debts, Sums of money and other moveables, which shall happen to pertain and belong to Us the time of our Death. With the Burden always of the special Legacies aftermentioned. With full power to our son's Executors to confirm this our Testament, give up Inventary of our Effects, and all other things to do in the executing of this our last Will, which to the office of Executors by the Law and Practice of Scotland are known, to appertain and used in the like cases.

Item We will and ordain that Charles Hay our lawful son procreated betwixt Us and the deceas'd Mr James Hay Brother-german of Charles Hay of Rannes our last Husband, shall draw and receive, out of the first and readiest of our Goods, Gear, Effects and Executory, after our Decease, such a sum or sums of money, as shall be equivalent to the third Share and Proportion falling to Us out of the Executory of the said deceas'd Mr James Hay, And We leave and bequeath the same to the said Charles Hay our Son, And if such Shares and Proportion shall not be made out, liquidated, settled and specified in our own Lifetime in favour of the said Charles Hay, Then we will and ordain the same to be settled and adjusted by our Executors above-named, as soon as may be after our Death.

Item whatever superplus of our Effects yr shall whatever happen to be over and above the sum and sums of money above specified left to the said Charles Hay in manner above mentioned, And beside such Things as We design and have determined to leave to the said Lord Banff our Son, by a special Note or Writing under our hand (vizt. some Christening Cloaths, a Diamond Cross, a Pearl Necklace and gold Gumstick and severall other things which We received in Gift from our Mother) We leave and bequeath the said superplus or overplus in manner following vizt. The just and equal Half of the same to the said Lord Banff our Son, And the other just and equal half thereof to James and William Hays, also our sons procreated betwixt Us and the said deceas'd Mr James Hay, equally betwixt our said two sons, Or as our said Executors shall think proper to divide the same betwixt them.

"Item We leave and bequeath to Mrs Janet Lauder Lady Congleton our Sister, and failing her by Death before ourself to Mr William Congleton her son, our whole Parapharnalia, Excepting any one Piece of the same, which the said Lord Banff may choose, and which in case he shall call for, he is hereby declared to have good and undoubted Right to, Item We hereby will and declare the formentioned two separate Notes or Writings under our hand, anent our Funeralls and the Things we design to leave to said Lord Banff to be as valid and sufficient to all Intents and Purposes, as if the same were herein specially ingross'd and insert, any Law or Practice to the contrary notwithstanding, And which two Notes or separate Writings We intend to wrap up in this present Will, And, earnestly recommend to our said Executors the strict and faithful observance of the whole Premises, This We declare to be our last Will and Testament, hereby revoking all former Wills and Testaments by Us made, if any such are extant, In Witness whereof, These presents (writen upon this sheet of stampt Paper by John French Writer in Aberdeen) are subscribed by Us at Banff the Sixth day of June in the year one thousand seven hundred and forty-one, Before these Witnesses The Reverend Mr James Innes Minister of the Gospell In Banff and John Ogilvie merchant There—The said John Ogilvie having Wrote the Date Wittnesses names and Designations."

The Family of Harper.

Margaret Gordon, who was a daughter of Alexander Gordon IV. of Arradeul and second wife of the Rev. Adam Harper, minister of Boharm (died 1726), died at Ringorum prior to March, 1753. Her will was confirmed at Elgin, March 14, 1753, Lewis Grant, of Wester Elchies, being the cautioner ("Moray Commissariot"). Her testament dative and inventory was given up by Cecilia Mitchell, "grandchild to the defunct and spouse to William Gordon in Ringorum, executrix dative qua nearest of kin decerned to the said defunct," conform to decreet dated February 20, 1753 "summa inventary patet."

J. M. B.

Robert Mackenzie Daniel, Novelist.

Mr Thompson Cooper contributed to the "Dictionary of National Biography" a short sketch of Robert Mackenzie Daniel, author of the once widely read, but now forgotten novels, "The Scottish Heiress,' 1842; "The Gravedigger," 1843; "The Young Widow," 1844; "The Young Baronet," 1845; and "The Cardinal's Daughter," 1847. Mr Cooper cites as his authority William Anderson's "Scottish Nation," but appears not to have seen the much fuller account in "Tait's Magazine" for July, 1847, from which Anderson's is evidently condensed, and which is duly noted in Poole's "Index." The writer in "Tait," followed by Anderson and Mr Cooper, states that Daniel "was born in Inverness-shire in the year 1814. His father was a small landed proprietor or laird within a short distance of the county town, and Robert was the youngest child of a rather numerous family. His school education having been completed in Inverness, young Daniel was sent at the age of 15 to Marischal College, Aberdeen. Here he remained for the space of three years, diligently pursuing his studies.....On quitting Aberdeen he removed to Edinburgh, from the desire of his friends that he should now direct his studies with a view to the bar, which was also his own inclination at this period. In prosecution of this object, he entered the office of a Writer to the Signet, at the same time attending the law classes at the University.....After a residence of four years at Edinburgh, Mr Daniel began to abandon the idea of following the profession of an advocate.....He bethought him that he might meet with success as a literateur in London, and, accordingly, we find him there in the latter part of 1836."

One does not readily believe that the greater part of this circumstantial account, printed a few months after Daniel's death, is pure romance; but I can find no confirmation of the story. When Daniel matriculated at Marischal College in 1831, he described himself as "filius Joannis mercatoris in urbe Peterhead" (see my "Fasti Acad. Marisc.," ii., p. 473); and he was a student at Marischal College for only one session. The late Mr William L. Taylor, the bibliographer of Peterhead, writes ("Scottish Notes and Queries" for February, 1892, p. 142):—

"Robert Mackenzie Daniel was the eldest son of John Daniel, clothier and marine insurance broker, Peterhead. Born in Peterhead about 1815; trained as a writer in the office of the late Provost Alexander, solicitor, Peterhead, and for a time with Messrs Gamack and Forbes, solicitors, Peterhead. After that he devoted himself to literature."

Can anyone suggest an origin for the Inverness and Edinburgh legend? To add to the confusion about Daniel, the "English Catalogue of Books, 1835-62," p. 187, assigns the five books above named to his widow, who herself was a novelist of some reputation. Allibone's "Supplement," i. p. 445, enumerates no fewer than eighty volumes from her pen during the years 1846-1877. What was her maiden name, and when did she die?

P. J. Anderson.

University Library, Aberdeen.

—"Notes and Queries," August 27, 1910.

The Coronation Stone of Scotland.

Of exceptional interest at the present time is the article by Mr George Watson, Oxford, on "The Coronation Stone of Scotland," which appears in Transactions of the Scottish Ecclesiological Society, vol. III. part I. Mr Watson gives a full account of the various far-fetched legends which have centred round this ancient and historic relic. According to these, the stone was taken to Ireland by Scota, a daughter of one of the Pharaohs, and was subsequently transferred to Scotland. Of the origin of the stone, however, we know nothing with certainty. Mr Watson says, other than that the geological evidence shows it to be stone such as is found in Argyllshire, Perthshire, and Forfarshire. "From the usage of other Celtic peoples, we may conclude that at an early date it was used as the stone on which the tanist or chief of the Gaelic-speaking race of Scotland was placed on his accession." When in 1874 it was taken from beneath the Coronation Chair at Westminster, it was described as a limestone block. Mr Watson goes on to say—

Conclusive proof of its Scottish origin seems to be found in the stone itself. As early as 1760 Pococke . . . expressed his disbelief in the legend of its Egyptian origin, and he added that it "seems to be some of the common granite of Scotland." In a communication to Dean Stanley, Professor Ramsay stated, as the result of a careful examination of the stone in 1865, that wherever the relic may have strayed "there can be no doubt of its Scottish origin. Its geological formation is that of the sandstone of the western coasts of Scotland."

Professor Ramsay described it as a "dull reddish or purplish sandstone," and stated that it was very improbable that it could have been obtained from Iona, Tara, Egypt, or Bethel, as represented by tradition. Then in 1869 Sir

Archibald Geikie, after having carefully examined the stone, pronounced it to be similar to the sandstone found in Western Argyll and to the rocks of Forfar and Perth. Indeed, in Sir Archibald's opinion, it perfectly resembled some of the sandstone found in the neighbourhood of Scone. While the origin of the stone is thus made reasonably clear, the date at which it was first used for Coronation purposes is unknown. We know for a fact, however, that it was in use in Scotland long before it was conveyed to England; and Mr Watson gives us accounts of various early Coronations in which it played a part.

Rhymes.

With reference to the Dochery rhyme which appeared in No. 124 (August 31), Mr James Smith states that when he was resident in Strathdon thirty years ago the following variant was current:—

John Begg and Jock Bettie,
Scott Stewart and Skirlin' Eppie,
Beardie Ferce and M'Pherson strong,
And that concludes the Dochery throng.

John Begg was a large farmer; John Beattie was a small farmer, being invariably called "Jock"; "Beardie Ferce" was the sobriquet given to James M'Hardy, who rented a small croft; while M'Pherson was another crofter with a family. "Jock" M'Dougall married "Skirlin' Eppie's" daughter, with the result that matters sometimes became lively, requiring the intervention of outsiders.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1869.

5th January. At Edinburgh, Eliza Agnes, daughter of the late Rev. Alexander Ramage, Minister of Ciuny.

11th January. At Edinburgh, Robert Dyce, M.D., Professor of Midwifery in the University of Aberdeen.

2nd January. At Pau, Captain Charles Kinnaird Johnstone Gordon, late of Craig, Aberdeenshire, fifth son of the late James Raymond Johnstone, Esq. of Alva.

19th January. At Woodend, Banchory Ternan, Mansfield Forbes, Esq., aged 72, formerly of Bombay, and youngest son of the late Duncan Forbes Mitchell of Thainston, Aberdeenshire.

24th January. At 97 Union Street, Aberdeen, Ann Anderson, widow of Rev. James Milne, Minister of Arbuthnott, aged 75.

30th January. At 21 King Street, Joyce Wilkins, widow of William Clapperton, Surgeon, R.N., aged 81.

30th January. At Inveruric, Margaret, widow of Rev. Charles Grant, late of Meiklefolla.

31st January. At Ivy Lodge, Malvern, in her 74th year, Marian, widow of Charles D. Gordon, younger of Abergeldie, and eldest daughter of the late Robert Phillips, Esq., of Longworth, Hereford.

15th February. At Aberdeen, suddenly, Rev. John Massie, Chaplain to the Royal Infirmary and Lunatic Asylum.

23rd February. At Preshome, Fochabers, the Right Rev. James Kyle, D.D.

11th February. At Netherton of Garlogie, Skene, Rev. David Smith, late Schoolmaster of the parish, aged 65.

19th February. At Oldmeldrum, Jean Angus, widow of Mr Melvin, Schoolmaster, Tarves, aged 63.

16th February. At Nairn, Miss Jane Dingwall Fordyce, last surviving daughter of the late Arthur Dingwall Fordyce, Esq. of Culsh, LL.D., Commissary of Aberdeen, in her 87th year.

18th February. At 17 Pall Mall, London, Admiral Robert Gordon of Abergeldie, aged 72.

8th March. At 24 Rosemount Place, aged 63, Ann Fraser, relict of Rev. Hugh Mackenzie, Free Gaelic Church, Aberdeen.

2nd March. At the Schoolhouse, Kildrummy, Jane Christie, aged 82.

24th February. At Rome, aged 62, Mary Jane, widow of John Forbes, Esq., and mother of the late Sir James Forbes, Bart. of Newe and Edinglassie.

15th March. At 106 High Street, Old Aberdeen, Alexander Stables, late merchant, in his 72nd year.

23rd March. At Ferryhill House, William Fisher, Esq., aged 64.

11th March. At Fernrae, Towie, Keith Gordon, son of the late Charles Gordon of Blelack, aged 73.

20th March. At St James's Parsonage, Cruden, Rev. John Burnett Pratt, M.A., LL.D., aged 70.

20th March. At the Manse, Fochabers, Margaret Forbes Cock, wife of Rev. Robert Cushny, minister of Bellie.

12th April. At Bridge of Allan, Alexander Williamson, Captain P. and O. Company, son of the late Benjamin Williamson, M.D., Aberdeen, aged 39.

20th April. At 194 King Street, Grace Frost, wife of Cornelius Thompson, aged 25.

15th April. At 2 Caroline Place, Aberdeen, Mr William Walker, late Treasurer of the Royal Infirmary, aged 75.

1st May. At Huntly, Rev. James Whyte Mailler, Minister of the U.P. Church there, aged 46.

18th May. At Friendville, Captain Malcolm Mackenzie.

29th May. Suddenly, James Hall, Shipbuilder, aged 65.

26th May. At the Free Church Manse, Keith, Rev. Archibald M'Gilvray, for 26 years Minister of the Free Church there.

2nd June. At the Manse, Kennethmont, Rev. William Minty, A.M., Minister of the parish, in the 73rd year of his age, and 37th of his ministry.

29th June. At Albert Grove, near Aberdeen, William James Grant, Esq. of Beldorney [in his 35th year].

24th June. At the Free Church Manse of Botriphnie, Rev. Alexander Fairweather, in the 27th year of his ministry and 63rd year of his age.

2nd July. At 11 Bon-Accord Street, Rev. Francis Muil, for many years one of the Masters of Robert Gordon's Hospital, in his 86th year.

13th July. At Rubislaw Park, Mrs [Eliza] Grant of Druminnor, widow of the late Alexander [Foulerton] Grant, Esq., aged 86.

24th July. At Balgownie House, Henry David Forbes, Esq. of Balgownie, in his 79th year.

22nd (?23rd) July. At Rothie-Brisbane, Fyvie, Mary (daughter of Alexander Henderson of Stenister), wife of Charles Chalmers of Monkshill, Advocate, Aberdeen

2nd August. At Balquindochy, Metlick, James Ewen, Millwright, aged 73.

19th August. At 11 North Broadford, Margaret Inglis M'Lean, widow of Rev. John Massie, Chaplain to the Royal Infirmary.

12th August. At Elie, Fifeshire, George Forbes, Esq. of Springhill, Aberdeen, aged 73.

7th September. At 214 Union Street, John Christie, M.A., F.R.C.S.E.

29th September. At Kepplestone Cottage, Rev. Marcus Sachs, Professor of Hebrew, etc., in the Free Church College, Aberdeen, in his 58th year.

17th October. At Auchry House, James Lumsden, Esq. of Auchry and Bethelnie [aged 85 years].

11th October. At Hazliebrae, Mornoch, Dr William Adamson, aged 75.

23rd October. At the Manse, King-Edward, Rev. William Findlay, M.A., for forty-three years Minister of that parish.

15th November. At Bruges, Miss Katharine Stewart Forbes, eldest daughter of the late Rev. George Forbes, D.D., of Bleiack and Inverernan, aged 59.

11th December. At 9 Golden Square, Aberdeen, Alexander Ogston, Esq. of Ardoe [aged 70].

28th December. At 10 Springbank Terrace, William Murray, late Manager, Aberdeen Lane Company, aged 75.

Queries.

554. Rev. David Corse, Minister of Oldmachar.—For several weeks I have been endeavouring to discover the name of the lady whom Mr Corse married. Neither Dr Hew Scott in his "Fasti" nor Mr Alexander M. Munro in his "Records of Old Aberdeen" gives it. Would some reader now furnish it with the date of the marriage? Y

555. Henry Inglis.—Mr Inglis was one of the directors of the City of Glasgow Bank, and, after its suspension, was put on trial and condemned to a term of imprisonment. He attained distinction as a poet in 1851, and published "Marian," "The Brier of Threave," and other poetical pieces. He was born in 1806. What was the date of his decease?

Alba.

556. John Gordon, Mortlach Distillery.—When did he die? What were the names of his wives?

J. M. B.

557. A Woman as a Surgeon-General.—A tradition exists in the R.A.M.C. that a Surgeon-General Gordon, who died "during the Kaffir War" (which one?) was a woman. Can anyone throw light on the curious point? Colonel Johnston, C.B., the best authority on the R.A.M.C., has never heard the story.

J. M. B.

558. Old Silver.—When did Aberdeen become an assay town, and what were its earlier distinctive marks?

P.

Answers.

501. William Thom, the Inverury Poet.—In his excellently-written guide "Through Thrums," Mr J. F. Mills notes the fact that the wife of William Thom was Jean Whitecross, a native of the Roods, near Kerrimuir, and that she stayed with her husband for a few nights in lodgings within the old house immediately west of the National Bank.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

525. The Moorisons, Provosts of Aberdeen.—It was about 1740 that the Moorisons changed their surname to Morison. What led to their adopting the change I am unable to say.

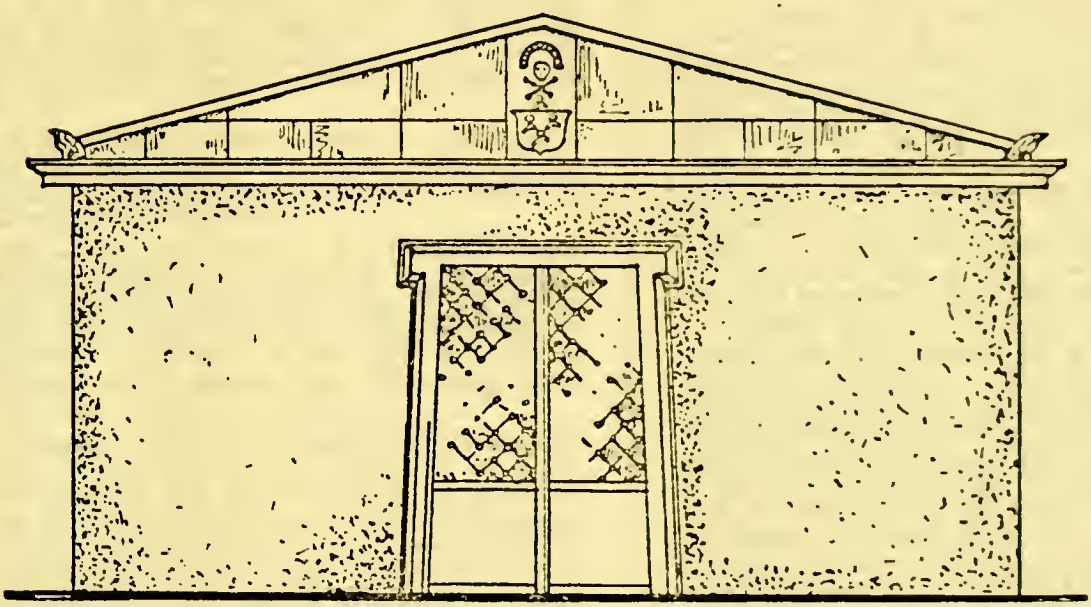
R. Smith.

527. The Lords Forbes and "The Bush of Kaitness."—"The Bush of Kaitness" was a famous shrub which grew at the extreme northerly point of Caithness, and the quotation referred to simply means that from 1371 to 1513 the Lords Forbes held supreme command from the Cairn o' Mount over the whole north of Scotland, but excluding the Orkney and Shetland Islands.

R. R.

No. 129.—October 5, 1910.

St Peter's Cemetery Mausoleum.



The above is a sketch of the front entrance to the Mausoleum in St Peter's Cemetery, Aberdeen, as obligingly drawn by Mr William Stuart Milne, architect, Aberdeen.

The following is a complete transcript of the inscriptions on the tombstones, etc., within the enclosure to members of the family of Moir of Scotstown.

A wall monument on the north side bears—

Sacred to the memory of George Charles Moir, Esq. of Denmore. Born A.D. October 10th, 1771; died January 12th, 1851. Mary Agnes Bruce, widow of the above, only daughter of the late Sir William Bruce, Baronet, of Stenhouse. Born 11th May, 1803; died at Leamington, 23th January, 1882.

George Charles Moir was the eldest son of George Moir of Stoneyweed, and his wife, Margaret, daughter of George Cumine of Pitullie. (Temple's "Thanage," p. 646.)

There are four wall tablets on the south side as follows:—

(1.)

To the memory of George Moir, C.B., of Scotstown, Colonel of the Royal Bengal Horse Artillery. Born at Aberdeen, 13th March, 1820; died at Umballah, India, 5th February, 1870.

Colonel George Moir was the eldest son of William Moir of Park, brother of George Charles Moir (1771-1851).

(2.)

Sacred to the memory of William Moir, who died 25th May, 1843, aged 63. Also of his widow, Mary Elizabeth, died 6th January, 1868, aged 72. And of their children—Alexander, died 30th January, 1826, aged six weeks; Charles, died 20th March, 1845, aged 15; Anne Isabella, died 10th February, 1848, aged 25; Margaret, 20th January, 1903.

William Moir was the father of Colonel George Moir, C.B., of Scotstown, above mentioned. He married Mary Elizabeth Forbes, daughter of John Forbes of Blackford. (Temple's "Thanage," p. 646.)

(3.)

In memory of Louisa Moir, wife of John Bell Sedgwick, died in London, 18th February, 1888. Also of Isabella Moir, wife of Wellwood Maxwell, died at Holmfield, Liverpool, 4th June, 1898.

(4.)

In memory of William Moir, born in Aberdeen, 9th May, 1824; died in London, 24th March, 1872. And of John Forbes Moir, born in Aberdeen, 5th June, 1821; died in London, 28th April, 1890.

A sarcophagus on the east side has at base—

I. H. S.
Michael Bruce,
Bart. of Stenhouse.
Born 31 March, 1795; died 14 December, 1852
Requiescat in pace.

On the right-hand side of the sarcophagus, facing the east, there is a small cross, inscribed—

W. 1843. M.
M.E.M.
1868.

The initials "W. M." stand for William Moir of Park, son of George Moir of Stoneywood, who died 29th April, 1789, and "M.E.M." for Mary Elizabeth Moir, daughter of John Forbes of Blackford. (See inscription on south side No. 2.)

A wall tablet on the east side, surmounted by the Moir coat of arms and motto, "Non sibi sed cunctis" [Not for one but for all], bears the following inscription:—

Sacred to the memory of Alexander Moir, Esquire of Scotstown, Sheriff of Aberdeenshire, who died 21st June, 1824, aged 64. And Isabella Moir, only child of Alexander Moir of Scotstown, and wife of Sir Michael Bruce, Baronet, of Stenhouse born 14th May, 1799; died 19th November, 1867.

Alexander Moir of Stoneywood, born 1760 (not 1764 as inadvertently stated by Mr A. J. Mitchell-Gill and the Rev. William Temple), was the only son of George Moir of Scotstown and Spittal, whose first wife's name cannot be ascertained from the Burial Registers, as those covering the period 1730 to 1769 have been lost.

In any case, she died 1760 (see plan furnished in issue of 3rd August), probably after having given birth to her illustrious son.

Interesting information concerning the connection of Alexander Moir of Scotstown with the old volunteer force is given by Mr Donald Sinclair in "The History of the Aberdeen Volunteers," published by the "Aberdeen Journal" Office, 1907. An excellent portrait reproduced in that serviceable volume belonged to Lieutenant-Colonel Knight Erskine of Pittodrie, who married Mr Moir's niece, Mary Anne Moir. The original portrait is now in the possession of Rev. James Smith, minister of St George's-in-the-West, Aberdeen.

I find that Sheriff Moir, as a patron of local literature, subscribed to the first edition of Francis Douglas's "General Description of the East Coast of Scotland," published by Alexander Weir, Paisley, 1782; and to "Poems of Ossian," edited by Hugh and John M'Callum, published at Montrose, 1816.

A small granite cross on the west side is inscribed—

G. C. M.
M. A. M.
Jany. 12th, 1851.
Jany, 28th, 1882.

"G. C. M." represents George Charles Moir, and "M. A. M." Mary Agnew Moir, his wife, only daughter of Sir William Bruce, ninth Bart., of Stenhouse. (Temple's "Thanage of Fermartyn," p. 646.) They were married 10th June, 1828.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

Gordon House Academy.

This famous school, which was founded by Andrew Mensall (M.A., King's College, 1765), son of James Mensall of Robiestown, has frequently been referred to by northern writers in a tentative way, but I do not remember having seen it stated that the most exhaustive history of it appears (very curiously) in "A narrative of events in the South of France and of the attack on New Orleans in 1814 and 1815," by Captain John Henry Cooke, late of the 43rd Regiment of Light Infantry, published in London by Boone in 1835 (8vo, pp. 319). In the oddest way Cooke introduces a whole chapter about the school (pp. 131-156) in the midst of his military experiences. He does not state when he was at the school, but as he was at Walcheren in 1809, it must have been late in the 18th or early in the 19th centuries.

"Gordon House," he says, "is situated on a gentle rise north-north-east of Kentish Town [London], a mile from a fine green knoll called Parliament Hill, and about the same distance from the foot of Highgate Hill; and the stone marks this establishment for young gentlemen to be four miles from St Giles's pound. When first I went to this academy, the edifice was composed of a dingy brick, the wings abutting to the front from either end, the old-fashioned window frames were fringed by a deep red brick, so much in vogue at the time of its construction. There was the gravelled playground in front of the house, which was skirted by open palings on three sides and shadowed by trees. Once while away for summer holidays, I was not a little astonished on my return, while with downcast eyes and heavy heart, to find that the old carcass had vanished, or, rather, that the greater portion of it was cased within the shell of a new and more lofty exterior edifice of more modern workmanship, and that all this prodigious labour had been executed within a few weeks. . . .

"This establishment counted over and above 100 boys, large and small; not all from the county of Middlesex, coming as they did from distant parts of the globe: such as tawny boys from the East and Creoles and black boys from the West.

"My schoolmaster [Mensall?] was from Scotland, and a scholar for whom I possess the highest respect, although as a pupil I may have hardly done him justice; here was no syntax proportions, but a mould of a schoolmaster, cast with herculean proportions, who could have thrown a sack of flour across his back from the mill and walked off with it into the bargain."

It appears that there was a military organisation among the boys called "The Royal Gordon House Volunteers." A writer in "The Graphic" (September 17, 1910) suggests that this may have been the first school cadet corps.

It is a very interesting fact that an Aberdeen graduate, Dr Adam Alexander (M.B., C.M., 1895) is now tenant of Gordon House, which has given its name to an adjoining street.

J. M. B.

"David Elginbrod" Epitaph.

"Here lie I Martin Elginbrod,
Have mercy on my soul, oh, God,
As I would do, if I were God,
And you were Martin Elginbrod."

To a recent issue of the "British Weekly" (25th August, 1910) Mr John C. Foster contributes an interesting article on the above epitaph. He claims to have discovered a rare book of the early eighteenth century. The following are the essentials of the title page:—

"An Essay Towards the Theory of the Intelligible World. Intuitively Considered. Designed for Forty-nine Parts. Part III. Consisting of a Preface, a Postscript, and a little something between. By Gabriel John. Enriched with a Faithful Account of his Ideal Voyage, and Illustrated with Poems by several Hands, as likewise with other strange things not insufferably clever, nor furiously to the Purpose.

"The Archetypally Second Edition.

"Why should all mankind be mad but I?
You that are wisest, tell me why?

"Printed in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred, etc."

It is in this book, well-nigh two hundred years old, and at page 103, that the lines in question occur: they are headed "A Scotch Epitaph." The following is an exact transcription:—

"Here lig I Martin Eltinbrode,
Have Mercy on my Saal, Loord Gode,
As I would do, If I were Godo
And ye were Martin Eltinbrode."

The book has been attributed to T. Durfey and "Tom Brown," both editors of scrappy books of the early eighteenth century, but without evidence. Sterne was evidently familiar with it, and laid it under tribute. Was George Macdonald indebted to it? And even so, that would not solve the origin of the epitaph. It would be interesting to know if anyone in the north can identify this book or prove that it was in the possession of George Macdonald. Those interested should not forget the excellent article, propounding a different theory, that Mr John Muir contributed to the "Weekly Journal" for 20th February, 1908. (See also "Scottish Notes and Queries," first series IV. pp. 117-118, 181, 202.)

A Reader.

"A Grue."

This old expressive Scottish word is almost obsolete now, but gruesome, its adjectival auxiliary, has outlived the manifold literary fluctuations. Like a number of other Scottish words which have been hustled into oblivion in our schools and Universities by arrogant southrons, there is no corresponding or equivalent English synonym at once so pithy, precise, and pregnant in meaning. A "grue" signified the involuntary shudder of the body on standing over the spot destined to be its earthly receptacle. Soldiers on the battlefield have felt this terrible tremor as a warning of impending dissolution, and have commissioned comrades who might survive the conflict with their last requests to dear relatives at home: and the premonition was exactly fulfilled—they were slain, and their bodies thrown into a rudely-fashioned trench where they fell. This warning "grue" was not to be despised; the bravest men have received and accepted the omen with unshrinking firmness. Our King James III., who was assassinated after the battle of Sauchieburn in 1488, is stated to have complained to a servitor that he had "a grue," and would not live till the next day. I have read that somewhere, but cannot particularise the source just now. Of course, the superficially clever man of modernity treats this as stuff unworthy of credence, and the arm-chair philosopher sneers at it as superstitious folly; but when they are subjected to any similar ordeal they prove just as weak as any other ordinary mortal. The wisdom of our forefathers is not to be lightly contemned, for it is abundantly justified. The natural dread of death is explicable even to thoughtless people, but warnings of its approach have been too often verified to be disdained at this present time.

As one fact is worth a dozen theories, however ingenious and fanciful they may be, I record one which happened here last year. A fine old Scot from Glasgow—I call him Fergus Robertson—came out to Australia on a visit to his two sons who had been settled in Melbourne, and were in prosperous positions. Old Robertson was a very shrewd and hospitable gentleman. He had been successful in business, and had travelled on the Continent of Europe. Therefore, when he came to reside in Essendon, near Melbourne, he became an esteemed member of a club of retired tradesmen and Civil servants, which met every sunny afternoon in the Queen's Park and discussed politics or exchanged reminiscences of former days in the dear old land. Robertson's adventures in Paris, Brussels, Antwerp, and other places, narrated with quaint humour in kindly Scottish parlance, were much relished, while his genial fellowship and spontaneous generosity were recognised and fully appreciated. He devised excursions round the neighbourhood, and at the meeting-place presided at the piano, for he could play well, and evoked some artless bit of Scottish song with much feeling. I remember now with melancholy interest his rendering of the sweet little chant of "Langsyne," by Rev. George J. Lawrie, and the exceeding pathos he put into the last verse—

"Now life's sweet spring is past,
And our autumn's come at last:
Our summer day has past,
And life's winter's coming fast:
But though lang its nights may seem,
We shall sleep without a dream
Till we wauken on a bright Sabbath mornin.'"

Robertson's eldest son, with whom he had resided in Essendon, decided to have a trip to Scotland, partly on business, and the old man went to live with a younger son in Elsternwick, some 12 miles away on the shores of the Bay; but ere he went he arranged that the members of the club should spend a day with him near the seaside, time to be specified by himself. This reunion, to which we all looked forward with pleasurable anticipations, did not come to pass. While Robertson was rusticating at Elsternwick, a great local politician, Sir Thomas Bent (originally a market gardener) died in October, 1909, and a public funeral was given to his remains in Brighton Cemetery, in close proximity. The day was a gloomy and tempestuous one, with frequent rain showers. Unfortunately for Mr Robertson, he attended the obsequies of the departed knight. He had never been in that burial ground before, the place was strange to him; but while standing there he experienced the dreaded "grue"—the presage of approaching fate smote him as he stood in the cold and cheerless precincts of that graveyard. He got home with difficulty, took to bed at once, and died several days after, and what is more singular and to the point, he was buried in that same cemetery about the place where he had been standing during the interment of Sir Thomas Bent. Casuists may explain that he contracted there and then a deadly chill or violent attack of influenza, and his burial there was a coincidence; but that he had a "grue" of irresistible potency appears to me a reasonable solution.

ALBA.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1870.

January 3. At 13 Dewar Place, Edinburgh, William Roger, artist, eldest son of the late Rev. John Roger, Minister of Kincardine O'Neil.

January 7. At 8 Albyn Place, John Jamieson, shipowner, aged 52.

January 6. At Portsoy, James Gardiner, Esq., M.D., aged 47.

January 15. At Potterton, James Harvey of Potterton, aged 46.

January 11. At the Manse, Portlethen, Rev. William Law, aged 73.

January 15. At Charing Cross Hotel, London, Basil J. Fisher, Esq., Ferryhill House, Aberdeen.

January 18. At Post Office, Aboyne, Margaret Cromar, relict of Rev. John Grassick, Schoolmaster, Kincardine O'Neil, aged 69.

January 19. At Nice, Peter Burnet, Esq. of Elrick.

January 23. At Logie-Elphinstone, suddenly, in the 83th year of her age, Gruemie, widow of Sir Robert Dalrymple Horn Elphinstone, Bart. of Horn and Logie-Elphinstone, daughter of Colonel David Hepburn, second son of James Congalton - Rickart - Hepburn of Congalton, Rickarton, and Keith-Marischal.

January 26. At 17 Golden Square, Dr Alexander Rainy of Middlefield.

February 10. At 7 Carden Place, Surgeon-General Alexander Tawse, E.I.C.S.

February 10. At Manar, Elizabeth, widow of Hugh Gordon of Manar, Esq., aged 85.

February 12. At Insch, Alexander Roger Sim, bank agent.

February 5. At Umballah, India, Colonel Moir, C.B. (of Scotstown), Royal Horse Artillery.

February 19. At Upper Norwood, James, third son of James Cumine, Esq. of Rattray, Aberdeenshire, aged 21.

February 20. At Countesswells House, Catherine Ann, widow of John Gordon, Esq. of Cairnbulg, in her 80th year.

February 16. At Knowsie House, Miss Shirrefs Lumsden Shirrefs of Blairmormond [aged 72].

February 27. At Loanhead Terrace, of scarlet fever, James Adam Gordon, son of the late Rev. James Walker, minister of Clatt, in his 17th year.

February 27. At Torquay, John, second son of the late Rev. George Mackenzie, Minister of Skene, aged 25.

March 7. At Broadford Bank, Aberdeen, Joseph M'Combie, M.A., aged 24, second son of William M'Combie, editor, "Free Press."

March 15. At Craigiepark, William Spark, Esq., in his 83th year.

March 20. At Westburn, in her 73th year, Ann Lamb Campbell, relict of David Chalmers, printer in Aberdeen.

March 20. At Gateshead, Newcastle, Hay Macdowall Grant, Esq., of Arndilly.

April 4. At 25 Union Place James Fraser, of Heathcot, late merchant in Aberdeen.

April 3. At Heathpark Cottage, Maryculter, Margaret Finlayson, wife of Thomas Ogilvie, hat manufacturer, Drum's Lane, aged 51.

April 3. At 4 Wemyss Place, Edinburgh, Mrs Chambers Hunter of Tillery.

March 23. At 19 Wellington Street, Islington, London, Isabella, wife of Charles Garston Grainger, J.P., advocate and secretary of the Scottish Australian Investment Company.

April 15. At Marine Terrace, Ferryhill, Eliza Lyall Grant, widow of John Abernethy, engineer, Ferryhill, aged 37.

April 14. At Breda House, Alford, Jean Nairne, relict of Robert Farquharson, Esq. of Allargue and Breda, in her 81st year.

April 16. At Edinburgh, Ann, widow of Lieutenant-Colonel John Robert Fullerton Udny, of Udny and Dudwick.

April 21. At Manse of Foveran, Alexander Barclay, second surviving son of Rev. W. S. Watt, aged 23.

April 25. At Loanhead Terrace, Aberdeen, Rev. Alexander Grant, senior minister of the Free Church, Lumphanan, aged 75.

April 29. At 12 Chapel Street, Aberdeen, Barbara Smith, second daughter of the late Rev. Joseph Smith, minister of the parish of Birse.

May 2. At Manse of Leslie, Rev James Peter, aged 65.

May 6. At Broadford Bank, William M'Combie, Editor, "Free Press," aged 61.

May 12. At 52 Dee Street, John Whyte, merchant, in his 87th year.

March 10. At Patea, New Zealand, James B. Fraser Suther, M.B., M.C., L.R.C.S.E., aged 29, second son of the Right Rev. the Bishop of Aberdeen.

June 4. At 46 Marischal Street, Aberdeen, John Ramsay, M.A., in his 71st year.

June 3. At Manse of Gartly, Isabella Jane, aged 23, eldest daughter of Rev. James Thomson, minister of Gartly.

June 19. At Manse of Glass, Charlotte [Crunck-hank], wife of Rev. W. Duguid, D.D. [aged 64].

June 23. At Braemar, Rev. Hugh Cobban, minister of the Free Church, Braemar.

June 29. At the Free Church Manse of Kintore, Rev. Robert Simpson, D.D., in his 78th year.

July 4. At Williamston House, Thomas Thomson, M.D., Inveramsay, late of Inverurie.

July 8. At 14 Crown Terrace, Francis James Cochran, of Balfour, advocate in Aberdeen, aged 61.

July 20. At 142 King Street, Robert Anderson, C.E., Town Surveyor, aged 50.

July 30. At Ravenscraig, Peterhead, Charles Brand, Esq., aged 67.

July 30. At Belmont, Bridge of Allan, Jessie Margaretta Macfarlane, second daughter of the late Rev. Alexander Macfarlane, minister of Crathie and Braemar.

June 9. At Kussowrie, aged 38, Captain James Thomson, Staff Corps, late of the 34th Regiment, Bengal N.I., and son of the late Alexander Thomson, Advocate in Aberdeen.

August 8. At Banchory House, Jessy Fraser, widow of Alexander Thomson, Esq. of Banchory and Rainieshill.

August 13. At Thainston, Duncan Forbes Mitchell, Esq. of Thainston and Easter Beltie, in his 58th year.

August 26. At 10 Rubislaw Terrace, Aberdeen, Georgina Pirie Garland, wife of Robert Milne, General Manager, G.N. of S. Railway.

August 24. At Strichen House, George Baird, Esq. of Strichen and Stichell, aged 60.

August 27. At Keith, James Gordon, Esq., solicitor, aged 36.

September 11. At Crichie, Thomas Tait, Inverurie Mills, aged 68.

October 11. At Tilquhillie, suddenly, John Douglass of Tilquhillie.

October 10. At Leven, Andrew Scott, A.M., Professor of Oriental Languages in the University of Aberdeen.

October 20. At Aberdeen, Melville Suther, Esq., Captain Royal Marine Light Infantry, eldest son of the Right Rev. the Bishop of Aberdeen, aged 34.

October 25. At Belmont, Alexander, younger son of Alexander Flockhart, Advocate, Aberdeen, aged 23.

November 7. At Woodhill, Aberdeen, Alexander Jopp, of Woodhill, Advocate in Aberdeen.

November 13. At 149 Crown Street, George Yeats, Silk Mercer, aged 70.

November 16. At Aberdeen, Colonel Henry Knight Erskine of Pittodrie.

November 29. At Williamston House, Charles Fraser, Esq. of Williamston.

December 7. At the Manse, Tarves, Rev. Francis Knox, aged 67.

December 9. At Peterhead, Margaret Skeiton, widow of John Ford Anderson, M.D., aged 86.

December 20. At his house 22 Leadside, Aberdeen, James Emslie, Esq. of Tullochvenus, in his 63rd year.

December 18 At 48 Skene Terrace, Margaret Mitchell, wife of David Gill of Blairythan, in her 62nd year.

December 26. At 7 East Craibstone Street, Jane Gibb, relict of John Blaikie, Esq. of Devenha, aged 78.

Queries.

559. Professor Alexander Gordon.—Alexander Gordon was Professor of Humanity in King's College from about 1695. Can any reader oblige me with the name and designation of his wife and the date of their marriage?

W. G.

560. Identity of House in Marischal Street Wanted.—The Hon. A. Duff of Echt occupied for some time in the beginning of last century Captain Gilchrist's house in Marischal Street, Aberdeen. Is this house still in evidence?

A. H. T.

561. Colonel Forbes, of the 45th Regiment.—Captain John Henry Cooke, in his curious "Narrative of Events in the South of France" (1835) refers (p. 6) to Lieutenant-Colonel Forbes, of the 45th, who was killed opposite the little "tete de pont" at Toulouse, in April, 1814. He was buried (April 13) with

military honours at "Le Pape la Marque, a piece of flat ground half a mile north-north-west of the city, and near the Canal du Midi." Who was he?

J. M. B.

562. Lochdhu.—Where is Lochdhu, and is it still in the possession of the descendants of General William Alexander Gordon?

M. H. M.

563. Farmer Drowned in a Spate in the Ythan.—Wanted the year in which the farmer of Cromleybank, Ellon, was drowned in a spate in the river Ythan while saving stooks and corn from being swept away.

J. M.

Answers.

533. Hangman's Brae.—In "Aberdeen in Byegone Days," by Mr Robert Anderson, several facts regarding this once famous brae are recorded. Describing the picture of the Castlehill in 1850, Mr Anderson notes that the picture "is interesting for its delineation of the Hangman's Brae, a street that descended from the south-west corner of the hill to Castle Lane, which ran (as it still does) into Virginia Street. The Hangman's Brae was obliterated when Castle Terrace was formed—about forty-six years ago—as were also the gardens on the southern slope of the hill. The site of the houses with 'forestairs' on the left is now incorporated in the Sick Children's Hospital (in front of one of the houses is what appears to be a swinging sign-board, with a figure like that of a man hanging from a gibbet); and to-day the Hangman's Brae is represented, more or less, by the steps leading down from Castle Terrace to James Street."

H.

544. Dalmaik Manse.—The manse at Dalmaik, in which James Gregory, the celebrated mathematician was born, was removed towards the close of the eighteenth century to make room for the manse, now used as a fishing lodge.

W. J.

554. Rev. David Corse, Minister of Old Machar.—Mr Corse married, on 8th February, 1705, Miss Margaret Gray, eldest daughter of James Gray of Balgownie. They had issue at least two sons, Alexander and David, the latter becoming minister of Dunnottar.

R. D.

No. 130.—October 12, 1910.

Ancestry of the Moirs of Scotstown and Barns.

Appended are some notes as to the early Moirs, which, in their conclusion, differ somewhat from the hitherto accepted view.

Mr Mitchell Gill, in his history of the Moirs (p. 71) gives under the head of Moir of Stoneywood—"iv. Mr William Moir, M.A., Burgess of Aberdeen, married Janet Rae, served heir to his father 1602, Treasurer of Aberdeen, 1615.

1. Henrie, bap. 28th May, 1605.

2. John, born 1610 (tombstone); of him again as Stoneywood's ancestor, next page.

3. William, as Scotstown's progenitor—see p. 75," etc., etc.

"v. John Moir I. of Stoneywood (eldest son of Mr William Moir, Burgess of Aberdeen, and Janet Rae), born 1610 (tombstone, St Nicholas Churchyard, Aberdeen)."

Again on p. 75—"v. William Moir (whom I make third son of Mr William Moir, Burgess of Aberdeen, and Janet Rae—see p. 71) I. of Scotstown, Professor of Marischal College, Aberdeen."

What I would endeavour to prove is—

(1) That the first proprietor of Scotstown was not Principal William Moir, but Treasurer William Moir, his father, who married Janet Rae. This is made clear by—(a) An extract from a birthbrieve quoted from "Spalding Club Miscellany," v., 362. "And that the said deceast Dr William Moir wes eldest lawfull son to the deceast Mr William Moir of Scotstoun, principall and professor of mathematicks in the Colledge Marischall of Aberdein, procreat betwixt him and Jean Gordon his lawfull spouss, daughter to the deceast Gilbert Gordon of Gordonsmill . . . ; and that the said deceast Mr William Moir wes lawfull son to the deceast Mr William Moir of Scotstoun procreat betwixt him and Jannet Rae, his lawfull spouss; . . ." (b) "Sa to Mr Wm. Moir burges of aberden be andro hervie of denstoun On the tua pt Lands of Scottistoun, dait 12 July 1602, Notter Mr Wm. Chalmer Pnt. Penes augti 1602. "[Minute Book, Aberdeenshire Sasines.] (c) June 17, 1620 George Pecok, Appothegar, burgess of Abd. v. Thomas Jamesone in Scottistoune. and his mother and brother. Cautioner Mr Wm. Moir, burgess of Abd. Peats in the Moss of Scotistoune had been arrested by Pecok, as proprietor of the third part of the lands, moss, etc. ["Sheriff Court Records," ii., 242.] (d) "Renun of the towne of scottistoune maid be george peacock. To Mr Wm. Moir 7 Septr. 1620." [Minute Book, Aberdeenshire Sasines.]

(2) That Principal William Moir was the eldest son of Mr William Moir. (a) Precept of sasine 2 May, 1623. Mr William Moir as "legitimus et propinquior heres masculus prefat. quondam Magistri Gulielmi sui patris" of the lands of Calsayseat. (b) Instrument of sasine following thereupon of the same date, in which Mr William Moir is described as burgend de Aberden filius primogenitus legitime deseruitus quondam Magistri Gulielmi Moir burgend dicti burgi. (c) Instrument of resignation dated May 31, 1656, Mr William Moir, in favour of his eldest son, Dr William Moir, in which Mr William Moir is described as "principall of the new colledge of aberdeen." ["Powis Papers."]

(3) That Mr John Moir was the second son of Treasurer William Moir, and was the ancestor not of the Stoneywood but of the Barnes Moirs—(a) Burgess Register of Aberdeen. "Sept. 22 1615. Moir, John (pupil), second son of Mr William (treasurer)." ["New Spalding Club Miscellany," i.] (b) Instrument of sasine, Mr William Moir, Burgess of Aberdeen, to John Moir, of a tenement and garden near the Gallowgate, May 24, 1615. "propter paternu amorem quem habet et gerit erga dilectu filiu suu legitimu secunde genitu Joanem Moir." [Aberdeen Sasine Register.] (c) June 1, 1604. "Sa to Wm. Moir burges of abd. on the lands of Sonyside & spittelhill as also on the croftis besyde ye Calsayseat dait 1 Junij. 1604. Notar Mr Wm. Chalmer." [Minute Book, Aberdeenshire Sasines.] (d) March 8, 1626. "Sa to mr Johne moir burges of abd. & mariorie beans his spous on the landis of sonysyid 8 March 1626 James Dauidsone." [Minute Book, Aberdeenshire Sasines.] N.B. "factum et cocessum per magrum gulielmu moir burgen eiusdem burgi fratrem germanu dicti magri Joannis prefato magro Joanni et mariorie beans sue et future sprouse." [Aberdeenshire Sasine Register.] (e) Sept. 25, 1628. "Sa to mr Johne Moir burges of abd. and Meriorie beanes his spouse On the toune and lands of Stonysyid. 25 Sept. 1628, mr alex. Reid not." [Minute Book, Aberdeenshire Sasines.] (f) Extract from the Aberdeen Burgess Register. Feb. 1, 1654. John Moir, eldest son to deceast Mr John Moir, burgess. ["New Spalding Club Miscellany," ii., 405.] (g) Extracts from register of births. John Moir and Mariorie Beanes. a son John. bapt. May 17 1631 ws. Archibald Beanes. A daughter Christian bapt. Feb. 22 1633. A daughter Mariorie bapt. Sept. 9 1634. [Old Aberdeen Parish Register.] (h) Instrument of sasine following on Charter to Marjorie Moir and Thomas Mitchell, burgess of Aberdeen, her husband, of a half net's fishing in the Don. John Moire "Lawfull sone to the deceist master Johne moire burges of aberdene" procurator in name of his sister Marjorie Moire. Dated Jan. 28, 1654. (i) Service of heirs, June 24, 1655. John Moir of Barnes burgess of Aberdeen heir of Mr John Moir burgess of the said burgh his father. (j) Jan. 12, 1655. Sasine on matrimoniel contract between Walter Cochrane late Baillie of Aberdeen for himself and "tackand burdene on him for marie cochrane his second laull. daughter," and the said Mary for herself, and Johne Moir "eldest laull. sone to the said deceast master Johne moir burges of the said brugh with consent and

assent of meriorie beans his mother" and the said Marjori for herself binding themselves to infeft John Moir and the heirs of him and Mary Cochrane with certain lands and tenements in Aberdeen. [Aberdeen Sasine Register.] (k) Service of heirs, April 11, 1674. 5709 Janeta Marjoria Issobella Agneta, Joanna Margareta Christina et Maria Moires haeredes portionariae Joannis Moir de Barnes mercatoris burgensis de Aberdein, patris. [xxxii., 298, "Inqu. Gen."] (l) Oct. 24, 1691. Matrimonial Contract between Master Alexander Fraser Regent King's College on the one part and Christian Moir daughter and coheir of the deceast John Moir of Barnes with the consent of Mary Cochrane relict of the said John Moir her Mother. ["Powis Papers."] (m) Extract from the poll book, 1696. "Mary Cochrane relict of John Moire of Barns whose poll, if in lyfe, would have been £9 6s." ["Poll Book," ii., 623.]

(4) That Mr Henry Moir was the third son of Treasurer William Moir. (a) Extract from the Aberdeen Burgess Register, Sept. 23, 1617. Moir, Henry, third son of Mr William M., dean of guild. ["New Spalding Club Miscellany," i.] (b) Jan. 4, 1651. Sasine of John Moir "filij Legitim natu maximi quondam mri Joannis Moir burgen dicti burgi ac heredis propinquioris quondam mri henrice Moir fratris Imediati junioris dicti mri Joannis et sic patriu dicti Joannis" on a tenement of land on the east side of the Gallowgate. [Aberdeen Sasine Register.]

To sum up—

Mr William Moir, son of William Moir, was admitted Burgess of Aberdeen in 1598. He was Dean of Guild of the city in 1606 and 1616, and Treasurer in 1615, etc. He had sasine on ⅔ of Scotstown in 1602, on the remainder of Scotstown in 1620, on Calsayseat in 1603, on Sunnyside and Spittal and crofts beside Calsayseat in 1604, also on land on the east side of the Gallowgate in 1608. He married Janet Rae, and died in or before 1623, having had the following sons—

1. Mr William Moir. He graduated at Marischal College in 1616, was Baillie of Aberdeen, Professor of Mathematics 1641-1661: and Principal of Marischal College 1649-1661. He had sasine on Calsayseat in 1623, on land on the east side of the Gallowgate in 1623, on the lands of Spittall in 1628, and on the lands and milne of Gordonsmilne in 1633, and on the north lands of Kirktone of Hospitall in 1652. He married Jean, daughter of Patrick Gordon of Gordonsmilne, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Dr William Moir of Scotstown. Another son, Patrick, received sasine on the lands of Spittall in 1672.

2. Mr John Moir. He graduated at Marischal College in 1617, was admitted burgess in 1615. He received sasine on land on the east of the Gallowgate in 1615, and on Sunny-side of Spittall in 1626. He married, 1626, Marjorie, daughter of Archibald Beanes, burgess of Aberdeen, and died before 1651, having had the following family—

(i) John Moir of Barnes, bapt. May 17, 1631.

(ii.) Xtian, bapt. Feb. 22, 1633.

(iii.) Marjorie, bapt. Sept. 9, 1634, mar. to Thomas Mitchell, burgess of Aberdeen.

3. Mr Henry Moir. He was admitted burgess in 1617, was possessed of land on the east side of the Gallowgate, and died before 1651, s.p.

J. G. Burnett.

Gordon of Balcomie.

William Gordon, son of the 7th laird of Lesmoir, got into great trouble with the estate of Balcomie, as is set forth in the "House of Gordon" (ii. (236)-(242). The following reference from the Register of Deeds, Dalrymple Office (vol. 101) throws a new light on the affair:—

Ratification and disposition by Mr William Gordon, advocate with consent of Eliza. Wood, his spouse and —— Gordon, his eldest law son to Sir William Hope, late Governor of the Castle of Edinburgh, of a decreet of sale and disposition of all right of the lands and Barony of Balcomie and Kilmanan, lying within the Sherifdom of Fife. At Edinburgh 9th July, 1706. Witnesses—Thomas Hamilton, advocate, and James Craig, writer in Edinburgh.

A reference in the M'Kenzie Decreets of 1679 (vol. 80), which I have not examined for myself, is described here as "son lawful to Mr William Gordon of Lesmoir."

J. M. B.

Transactions of the Buchan Field Club, 1909-10.

The present issue of the Buchan Field Club's Transactions forms the first part of the first volume of a new series. Its contents are limited to three papers read before the Club. While there is thus not much variety, the print is nevertheless one of exceptional interest and value. The first paper consists of the retiring presidential address delivered by Mr Robert Anderson on 10th December, 1908, on "Field-Marshal Keith," who stands forth as one of the greatest sons Buchan has ever produced; and it can at once be said that Mr Anderson, whose deep and comprehensive knowledge of Buchan lore is well known, has done ample justice to his theme. The paper gives evidence of much research, and most careful preparation: and what surprises one is that from such scanty and scattered material as is available and within the matter of some thirty pages of print, the author has succeeded in presenting such a wonderfully full and vivid sketch of the field-marshal's career. Mr Anderson is not content merely with stating his facts: he also gives the authorities for them in a series of footnotes,

where the sources of his information are not disclosed in the text. The value of the paper itself is enhanced by a number of appendices which cover something like a score of additional pages. These include the complete text of the Jacobite ballad, "When the King Comes Ower the Water," generally attributed to "Lady Keith" (Countess Marischal); the verses, entitled "The Last Countess Marischal," by Mr Norval Clyne, which originally appeared in "Grass of Parnassus from the Bents o' Buchan"; notes on the landing of the Old Pretender at Peterhead, with the text of the local Jacobite song, "My Mantle," which was given by Peter Buchan in his "Gleanings of Scarce Old Ballads"; memorials of Keith; tributes to the field-marshal's memory and notes on his portraits; and a bibliography extending to two pages and a half. Further, the paper is illustrated by five portraits of the field-marshal, all of them full-page in size, and reproduced very finely on excellent paper. They embrace the portraits by Belle, by Allan Ramsay, by Francesco Trevisani, and by A. F. von Menzel, together with a photograph of the bronze statue (a replica of the marble statue in the Military School at Berlin), which was presented to Peterhead by William I., the first of the new series of German Emperors, and stands in front of the Townhouse of the burgh.

The second paper is one by Mr H. B. Mitchell on "Colour and Song of Wild Birds," which was read before the Club in March last year. It does not profess to be a scientific treatise, but it shows that the author is a keen observer, with a shrewd insight, and that he possesses the happy faculty of imparting the information he has been able to glean in a very attractive style, not the least of the graces of which is the quiet humour with which the narrative is threaded. Here is an example—

"Among the humbler, as among the more exalted bipeds, we are told, elegant attire and musical accomplishments are the wares of the dealer in the matrimonial market, expressly designed to dazzle the eye and bewitch the ear of the intended victim of matrimony. Generations of feathered dandies and vocalists have vied with one another in the gaiety and splendour of their attire, and strained their little throats in competitive voice production for the entertainment and enslavement of critical females, the successful competitors being rewarded with the appreciation and love of the coveted fair ones. Hence it has been asserted that where the bird population is dense, and rivalry correspondingly keen, the operation of the laws of natural selection and survival of the fittest have evolved a bird race of superior personal appearance and vocal accomplishments. Such an interpretation is no doubt romantic and interesting, for the reason and in the degree that it assimilates the life of birds to that of human beings, but for the same reason and in the same degree it is improbable. It assumes for the bird creation a standard of artistic perception which is much too high."

In the third paper, Mr James Ferguson of Kinmundy deals with "The Old Castles of Buchan," of which there are many examples. Associated with the great name of Comyn are the ruins of Kin-Edar and Dundargue, the name of Rattray, the original ownership of Old Slains, Inverallochy, and, more doubtfully, Cairnbulg. To the Cheynes pertained Ravenscraig and Arnage. The Keiths were lords of Inverugie, Ludquhairn, Boddam, Clackriach the castle on the Keith Inch of Peterhead, and, in succession to the Cheynes, Ravenscraig. The Frasers lived long in Cairnbulg, Kinnaird-head, and Philorth, and, before the Cumines, in Pitullie. Slains and Delgaty were houses of the Hays, Pitsligo and Waterton of the Forbeses, Gight and Ellon of the Gordons. Towie-Barclay and Cullen of Buchan were strongholds of the Barclays—

Towie Barclay of the glen,
Happy to the maids but never to the men.

Craigston remains a monument of the Cavalier Urquharts, while the "magnifica et amena arx" of Fyvie still speaks specially of the cultured taste and large view of the proud Seton who, in King James VI.'s days, was President of the Court of Session and Chancellor of Scotland. Mr Ferguson furnishes descriptive notes regarding not fewer than two dozen of these old castles, some of which have had an interesting history.

A reprint of Mr Anderson's address on Field-Marshal Keith, with illustrations, as above described, has also been issued. The narrative is undoubtedly the best and most accurate that has ever been published on the gallant soldier.

Professor George Dickie, M.A., M.D.

Let one of the large number interested thank "A Reader" for his timely information regarding portraits of the late William M'Gillivray, professor of natural history in Marischal College, of whom an excellent life appeared this summer. Is it not time for someone who knows the facts to write a companion life of Dr George Dickie, the eminent professor of botany? We are still within reach of his memory, but a few years will leave us with vague traditions and conjectures instead of certainties. It would not be difficult to name one or two who could perform this work for our University and district, provided they could spare the time, and if they cannot, have we not research students nowadays?

Q. N.

The Battle of Corrichie Ballad.

It appears that in trying to solve the problem of the authorship of the Aberdeenshire ballad on the Battle of Corrichie, I have run against a snag, but if it had been charted properly, I would not have risked a capsize. "W." may be certain of that. If my dates are wrong, the

authorities I consulted are to blame. My reasons for exposition of the dates were:—(1) That Mr Turreff stated that the ballad appeared in "Ruddiman's Magazine" "about the middle of last century," so I chanced 1750, which ought to coincide. "W." says the ballad first appeared there in 1772, which is nearer the last quarter of that century than the middle of it. I have never had the pleasure of perusing that magazine, but would dearly love to have an inspection of its antique pages. Doubtless many a golden nugget in Scottish biography and literature is there imbedded amongst mullock awaiting the skilful fossicker to extract. I have had all the old volumes of the "Gentleman's Magazine" under examination, but Ruddiman's has been hitherto denied, and possibly a complete set is not now in existence. (2) To John Forbes is assigned the authorship of the ballad in question by Whitelaw and Aytoun, and as schoolmaster was usually the rudimentary step to parsonship in Scotland, I am not blameworthy for trying to sketch the life of John Forbes, a versifier, who was originally a schoolmaster and a contemporary in 1750. (3) My reference to Robert Forbes—the ablest of the three Forbeses, in my opinion—was based upon a statement I have in a book that "Ajax's Speech to the Grecian Knabs" was published at Edinburgh in 1795, which I presumed was its first appearance in print. If it was circulated previously, I did not know, nor did my authority either, else he would have mentioned it.

"W." alludes to "The Dominie Deposed," by William Forbes, A.M., schoolmaster in Peterculter, as the probable author, and I am inclined to accept his statement. At the same time I think the kirk-session was justified in deposing him if he was the author of the ballad. I have not seen the "Dominie" or its sequel.

I do not think I have erred greatly. If the statement had been made, as "W." puts it, "one Forbes, a schoolmaster at Maryculter on Deeside," I would not have ventured an opinion, but the "John" was decisive. In point of fact, three Forbeses—John, Robert, and William—all versifiers and contemporaries, are dangled before us, and in the choice vernacular of my boyhood's days, I am gruffly accosted—

"Neevie, neevie, nick-nack!
Fitna Forbes will ye tak'?"

If I did take the wrong one, I make amends now by discarding the cleric and accepting the pedagogue instead.

My informant about Robert states that he kept a shop somewhere near Tower Hill, London, and so he fades away from our view; but he was a clever fellow, and many a laugh I have had at Ajax's speech in the broad Buchan dialect.

Alba.

Melbourne, Australia.

Murdoch Family.

Some time ago I received a communication from Rev. R. T. Cross, Fort Collins, Colorado, U.S.A., anent the Murdoch family in Scotland. Mr Cross says—"I am descended from Robert Murdock, who was born in Scotland, 1665, and came to Plymouth, Mass., about 1680." He was a brother of John Murdock, of Plymouth, also probably of Thomas. The first Murdock Mr Cross finds any trace of in America is Mary Murdock, who married William Brown, 15th July, 1640, at Eastham, Mass. Brown died about 1694, and was survived by Mary, George, and William (born at Plymouth, Mass., 1651-54) and Samuel, John, James, and Mercy. Could Mary Murdock have been aunt of Robert and John (and Thomas)? Mr Cross's descent is as follows:—(1) Robert, (2) Benjamin, (3) Benjamin, (4) Samuel, and (5) Sophia Murdock—who was Mr Cross's mother. A cousin of Mr Cross was the late Judge Hollis Murdock, who made a special visit to Scotland in 1879 to examine the Murdock residences.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1871.

January 10. At Sunnybank, Old Aberdeen, Magdalene Milne, wife of Alexander Stronach of Drumallan [aged 64].

January 8. At 11 Carden Place, West, in his 77th year, Rev. Robert M'Combie, of the Free Church, Leslie and Premnay.

January 9. At 83 Bon-Accord Street, aged 66, Christina Harvey, widow of Alexander Davidson, Bank Agent, Inverurie.

January 12. At Old Rain, Dr Alexander Mitchell, in his 60th year.

January 10. At 1 Playfair Terrace, St Andrews, Margaret Ritchie Welch, widow of John Gordon Davidson, Esq. of Kebbaty.

January 12. At 12 Royal Crescent, Bath, in her 75th year, Margaret, wife of William D. Lynch, Esq., and second daughter of the late Lewis Farquharson Innes, Esq. of Ballogie.

The Rev. George Thomson, M.A., late of Renfrew, and formerly Schoolmaster of Cluny, Aberdeenshire, died at Manse of Renfrew, December 31.

January 19. At 14 India Street, Edinburgh, Mary, widow of Rev. Henry Simson, of Chapel of Garioch, aged 76.

January 23. At Torquay, Harry, eldest son of Rev. Dr [Charles] M'Combie, Lumphanan, aged 26.

February 5. Suddenly, at 6 Picardy Place, Edinburgh, William Keith, M.D., of Easter Muchalls, and of 253 Union Street, Aberdeen, aged 68.

February 5. At the Manse, Lonmay, Rev. Charles Gibbon, D.D., in his 82nd year of age and 61st of ministry of the parish.

January 31. At Manse of Forgue, Rev. John Abel, aged 48.

February 4. At Bermondsey Square, London, Dr Thomas K. Richmond, eldest son of the late Captain Richmond, Old Aberdeen.

February 20. At the Manse, Lumphanan, William, eldest surviving son of Rev. Dr M'Combie, aged 22.

March 8. At the Free Church Manse, Oyne, Rev. David Simson [in his 70th year].

March 7. At St Leonard's-on-Sea, Colonel Charles Mackenzie Fraser of Castle Fraser and Inverallochy, in his 79th year.

March 27. At the Manse, Abernethy, James Gordon, Esq., only son of the late Francis Gordon, Esq. of Craig and Kincardine.

March 21. At 33 Drummond Place, Edinburgh, Catherine Gregory, widow of William Buchanan, Esq., Advocate, and last surviving daughter of the late Rev. James Gregory, of Gilcomston, Aberdeen, and of Banchory-Ternan.

April 5. At 13 Golden Square, Rev. James Gillan, D.D., Minister of the parish of Alford, in the 68th year of his age and 44th of his ministry.

April 11. At Aldie, Cruden, James Shepherd, Esq. of Aldie, aged 83.

April 19. At East Cevidly, Keig, William Ronald, aged 81, esteemed through a long life for sterling honesty in word and deed.

May 1. At 38 Manchester Street, London, Captain James Forsyth, A.M., Bengal Staff Corps, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Central Provinces, India, aged 33, second son of Rev. James Forsyth, D.D., Minister of West Parish, Aberdeen.

April 28. At 6 Devanha Terrace, Mary Elizabeth, second daughter of the late John Barron, Advocate, aged 16.

April 27. At Aberlour House, Dr Macpherson, aged 75.

April 23. At Craigellie House, William Shand, Esq. of Craigellie, aged 64.

May 3. At Prospect Place, Aberdeen, Alexander Burness, Esq. of Mastrick, aged 80.

May 6. At Old Aberdeen, Allison, wife of David Robert Moriee, Advocate in Aberdeen.

April 2. At Mauritius, in his 24th year, Alexander, fourth son of Rev. William Paul, D.D., Minister of Banchory-Devenick.

May 7. At Chester House, Wimbledon, James Stewart Forbes, Esq., brother of Sir Charles Forbes, Bart, of Newe.

June 4. At Johnston, George Birnie of Johnston, aged 82.

June 1. At 19 Brunswick Terrace, Brighton, William Pollard-Urquhart, Esq. of Kinturk, Castle Pollard, County Westmeath, and of Craigston Castle, County Aberdeen, M.P., in his 56th year.

May 4. Near Thatone, Burmah, Duncan Mearns Scott, son of the late Professor Hercules Scott, of King's College, Aberdeen, accidentally shot in the dark by his own men while engaged in recapturing a Dacoit who had escaped from justice.

June 22. At 4 Caroline Place, Rev. James Stirling, of U.P. Church, George Street, in the 47th year of his ministry.

June 23. At 4 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh, Miss Jane Forbes, last surviving daughter of the late Sir William Forbes of Pitsligo and Fettercairn, Bart.

July 11. At 3 West Craibstone Street, Mary Griffith, wife of F. Taylor Garden, advocate.

July 15. At 32 Skene Terrace, Bathia, youngest daughter of the late John Paton, Esq. of Grandhome, aged 88.

August 27. At New York, William Malcolm, Parochial Schoolmaster of Echt, aged 71.

September 22. At 39 Union Place, Margaret Skelton Murray, wife of Archibald Reith, M.D.

September 23. At Kinaldie, George Milne of Kinaldie, in his 77th year.

September 20. At Northburn Cottage, Inverurie, Christian Jamieson, widow of Thomas Thomson, M.D.

October 12. At 57 Dee Street, Rev. James Newsam, late private chaplain to Admiral Ferguson of Pitfour, aged 79.

October 16. At the Schoolhouse, Huntly, William Dallas M'Donald, M.A., aged 23.

November 3. At Ruby Cottage, Aberdeen, Alexander Henderson Chalmers, W.S., eldest surviving son of Charles Chalmers, Esq. of Monkshill, Advocate, Aberdeen, aged 41.

November 18. At 53 Dee Street, Robert Smith, Surgeon, eldest son of the late Rev. Alexander Smith, D.D., Chapel of Garioch.

November 20. At 17 North Silver Street, Georgia Anna Birnie, wife of Peter Esslemont, Merchant, aged 37.

November 16. At Stonehaven, aged 84, James Tindal, Solicitor, Stonehaven, P.F. of Kincardineshire.

December 21. At Aberdeen, Alexander Chivas, Advocate, aged 73 years.

December 23. At Kemnay Cottage, Alexander Cheyne, A.M., late Parochial Schoolmaster, Monquhitter, aged 70.

December 29. At the Schoolhouse, Cruden, Robert Dawson, A.M.

Queries.

564. Dr James Forbes.—The "Aberdeen Journal" of 15th November, 1837, in recording the death, which occurred at London on the 7th of that month, of Dr James Forbes, Inspector-General of Army Hospitals, adds that he "was a native of Aberdeen," and that "no man ever left it who reflected more credit on his country and the place of his education." Who was Dr Forbes the son of?

R. R.

565. William Davidson of Kebbaty.—Whom did Mr Davidson marry?

A.

566. Dr Francis Adams, Banchory.—Would a Banchory residenter oblige me with a copy of the inscription (composed by Professor (afterwards Principal) Sir William D. Geddes) inscribed on the monument at Bellfield to Dr Adams?

R. Y.

Answers.

543. Dr Gordon.—I dealt with Dr John Gordon at length in the "Huntly Express" of October 13th, 1905, and in a condensed form in the "House of Gordon," ii. (408)-(410). Gordon (1786-1818) was a younger son of John Gordon of Edintore, and the father of John Thomson Gordon (1815-65), whose son, the Rev. Charles Dickens Gordon, formerly an Anglican clergyman, but not a Roman Catholic, is now, I am told, private secretary to Lord Milner. The books "Delta" seems to refer to are "Observations on the Structure of the Brain" (an attack on phrenology) and "Lectures on Human Physiology."

J. M. Bulloch.

559. Professor Alexander Gordon.—The marriage registers of Old Machar show that on 26th December, 1704, Alexander Gordon, Professor of Humanity in King's College, married "Miss Barbara Colison, lawful daughter of John Collinson, umquhill of Ardo," in Banchory-Deveniok.

T. R.

No. 131.—October 19, 1910.

Aberdeenshire Seceders.

In one of the obituary lists in these columns appears the name of the Rev. Adam Lind, Whitehill, who had a nephew of the same name who became a D.D. and strayed into the county and Cathedral city of Elgin. The cradle of the U.P. Church in Aberdeenshire was Buchan, but Craigdam was the parent church. There have been many books written about the Seceders of the North, which are full of interest and are accurate in fact. There are two regular annalists of the old U.P. Church—Dr M'Kelvie and Dr Robert Small. The former was painstaking, but not always accurate, being apt to be led astray by hearsay information. Dr Small, on the other hand, was a past master at hunting out and verifying facts. He is candid to a fault, but always interesting, and an examination of his volumes is suggestive of the History of the Rise and Progress of the Seceders all over the land.

For one thing, Presbyterian ministers in the beginning and well through the 18th century did not get a living wage. The Scottish nobles, lairds, and gentry had a very clearly-defined theory that a poor church is a pure church, and they carried it into practice on systematic lines. The stipends in the Church of Scotland were very small. Even as late as 1810, the average was only £110 per annum. As a consequence, it was comparatively easy to raise the small sums deemed necessary to support ministers.

It takes considerable antiquarian and historical knowledge to master the terminology of the Seceder churches. The variety in denomination at Clola and Craigdam embraced the Anti-Burgher, whose leader and founder was the Rev. Adam Gib, son of a bonnet laird not far from Dollar, a determined polemic, who had the elements of a first-rate Pope in him, and believed in excommunicating everybody who did not agree with his views about the Burgess oath. Dr Jamieson, who gave us the "Scottish Dictionary," was an Anti-Burgher minister in the original congregation in Edinburgh. The laird of Kinmundy and his wife went to Burntisland and got caught in the movement, and on returning to their home in the parish of Old Deer proceeded to proselytise throughout the country side. Rev. Alexander Moncrieff, of Culfargie, and Rev. Thomas Mair, of Orwell, went to the Wells of Peterhead, and shed light in what was called a "dark corner." At Old Deer Rev. George Mair, parish minister of the time, was evangelical in his sympathies. Rev. Alexander Moncrieff, of Abernethy, was a convinced and resolute Anti-Burgher, and there are traces of his presence in Clola, which is also remarkable as having been the scene of the labours for many years of two ministers of the name of M'Kie. There were Praying Societies at Whitehill, Artamford, Clola, and other places, and these by and by became settled charges.

The Seceders did not get a footing in the city of Aberdeen till 1757. New religious movements never had much attraction for the people in these northern regions. The Reformation had its difficulties, and the Covenanting struggle did not make any deep impression. Curiously enough, the first Seceder Kirk in Aberdeen was a Burgher congregation that grew out of the Church of Scotland. Rev. John Bisset, one of the ministers of the parish of St Nicholas, had sympathies with the Four Brethren, and was an extreme Evangelical. He is difficult to classify, being "neither a Seceder nor a Kirkman. He gave up the Church after the ministers read the Porteous Act, and indulged in a general fulmination against Popery, Prelacy, Whitefieldism, and Jacobitism." He evidently resembled Pastor Jacob Primmer in his views and methods. George Whitefield had the privilege of being publicly preached and prayed at one afternoon in the Parish Church of St Nicholas. The Seceders did not love George Whitefield, who found his friends in the Church of Scotland. When Mr Bisset retired, part of his congregation joined the Seceders, and were congregated in the Upperkirkgate by a man famous in his day—viz., Rev. Mr Shirra, of Kirkcaldy. The early movement is represented to-day by the Melville U.F. Church. The congregation suffered in the controversy between Old Lights and New Lights, and was lost to the U.P. Church. There were two Seceder Churches at one time in Belmont Street. One of them was an Anti-Burgher, the other was a Relief Congregation, which entered the Established Church. The Shiprow at one time had a Relief Church, which had rather a stormy history. There used to be reminiscences of a Berean Church and Rev. Hugh Hart. These churches were called "Broth Kirks," and are all but extinct now. St Nicholas was a Burgher Congregation. St Paul's was a Relief Congregation. Carden Place, once George Street, was a split off Belmont Street, and so was Charlotte Street U.F. Church. The Rev. Mr Templeton, of Belmont Street, caused both these secessions by a certain amount of clerical obstinacy which was very remarkable in its evolution and disastrous in its effects.

Craigdam and Aberdeen had a close connection at one time. There is a curious rhyme about the most notorious of the ministers of Craigdam—

> The Rev. Patrick Robertson,
> Who long did serve the Lamb
> In that department of His Church
> In Tarves at Craigdam.

His career has been given in a very admirable and readable book. He must have been a character in his day, and a pulpit eccentric, with the usual disability that attaches to that class, lack of dignity. He belonged to the same category as Rowland Hill, or the more modern John M'Neill. The Rev. Adam Lind, of Whitehill, has a suggestive note in his diary—"Poor old Mr Robertson, of Craigdam, has been tempted

to leave Craigdam for Aberdeen. The Lord may over-rule it for good to both parties." He came to Charlotte Street Church in 1841, and when the glamour wore off, the audiences fell away, and the sky grew dark with gathering clouds. He left the Seceder Church in rather a sad fashion, and joined the Free Church in 1846. He was a power in his day, and lived long in the land, dying at the age of 91, after a ministry of 64 years

Craigdam's first minister was Rev. William Brown, who was known as the "rinnin' minister." He made Craigdam the centre, but a great part of his work was itinerary preaching at various places over a wide district. The Rev. Adam Lind mentions the fact that Mr Brown used to take a text and preach many sermons on it. He had two famous grandsons, sons of Alexander Brown, bookseller, who became Provost of Aberdeen and a notable man in his day. Dr David Brown rose to be Principal of Aberdeen Free Church College and Moderator of the General Assembly. Dr Charles J. Brown was one of the popular preachers of Edinburgh at and after the Disruption. Principal Brown inherited the quick, agile movements of his grandfather, and was a man of mark in his day and generation.

Craigdam congregation has had a notable history, and still endures. It was Anti-Burgher at the beginning, but is now United Free Church. The union that came in 1900 obliterated the old distinctions in name, and Burghers and Anti-Burghers and Relief and Old Lights and New Lights have ceased to have much meaning in these latter days.

It is curious to read about the origin of the plain Seceder Kirks of Aberdeenshire. The parish minister who gave up reading the line was the cause of the formation of Lynturk congregation. The Anti-Burghers were the straitest sect of the Seceders, and waged war with the followers of the Haldanes. Cowie of Huntly was one of the famous men who became an Independent when the new wine was poured into old bottles. Shiels, in Belhelvie parish, was consistently and persistently Anti-Burgher.

It is a pleasure to read the pages of Dr Small, and the marvel is how these small congregations went on so long. They did good work for a century. Their ministers had plain living and high thinking. They had the power of preaching the Gospel and impressing the common people who heard them more gladly perhaps than they are doing those who have come after them.

J. A.

Register of Indentures for the Burgh of Aberdeen.

[Continued from No. 60, 9th June, 1909.]

1787.

Aug. 29. Wm. Cadenhead, son to Robt. Cadenhead in Robertson, p. to Peter Robertson, staymaker in Aberdeen; 5 years after 25rd August, 1782. Fee, £8 6s 8d. The apprentice to uphold himself in cloaths, washing, and other necessaries, and the master to maintain in bed and board. Robert Cadenhead, servt. to Lewis Wilson, taylor, and Magnus Martin, butcher, cautioners.

Alex. Davidson, son of the deceast Alex. Davidson, in Shiells, p. to Peter Robertson, staymaker; 8 years after 30th June, 1780 No fee. The master to maintain in bed and board. George Davidson, servt. to Geo. Murdoch, in Lawrencekirk, and John Bothwell, woolcomber in Aberdeen, cautioners.

Geo. Moir, son to John Moir, in Mill of Balcairn, p. to Andr. Simpson, merchant in Aberdeen; 5 years after 2nd Sept., 1782. Fee, £10. The master to maintain in bed and board. The father and Peter Anderson, taylor, cautioners.

Septr. 24. James Clerk, son of Gilbt. Clerk, late mason in Abd., now in Jamaica, with consent of Isobel Gauld, his mother, p. to Chas. Lunan, clock and watch maker; 9 years after 1st Janry., 1779. No fee. Thos. Gordon, mason, and James Thain, wright, cautioners.

Andr. Taylor, son of the deceast Andr. Taylor, in Culture, p. to Alex. Milne, baker; 5 years after 15th March, 1784. Fee, £5 10s and 2 pairs of blankets. John Milne in Craigtown, cautioner.

Octr 4. John Leiper, son of the deceast Alexr. Leiper, mariner in Aberdeen, one of the boys of Gordon's Hospital, p. to Alexr. Tytler, shoemaker; 5 years after 25th Octr., 1782. Fee, £100 Scots. James Mathew, mariner, cautioner.

Novr. 12. George Angus, son of the deceast James Angus, at Skenes Square, p. to Peter Gill, watchmaker; 6 years from 1st January, 1782. No fee. Alexander Rough, farmer in Cloghill, and William Rough, overseer at Udny, cautioners.

1788.

Feby. 20. Charles Wilson, son to Andrew Wilson, late farmer in Tillieriach, in Tough p. to William French, baker; 5 years from 11th May, 1783. Fee, £6 stg. Alexr. Elmslie, in Wester Lochel, parish of Lochel, and James Wilson, in Tillieriach of Tough cautioners.

James Duncan, son to James Duncan, mason in Aberdeen, p. to George Strachan, shoemaker; 5 years from 24th February, 1783. No fee. The father to maintain for first 15 months, and pay £1 for a bedding of cloths.

January 20. Alexr. Gibson, son to James Gibson in Links, parish of Old Machar, p. to John Wallace, baker; 4 years from Candlemas, 1784. Fee, £8. The father and George Symers, farmer in Upper Torrie, cautioners.

February 20. William Morison, son to the deceased William Morison in Knocando, p. to Garvock & Whyte, staymakers; 5 years from 28th April, 1783. No fee. William

Innes, lint dresser, and James Logie, soap boiler, both in Aberdeen, cautioners.

March 11. James Tocher, son to George Tocher in Fyvie, p. to Robert Johnston, blacksmith; 5 years from 4th June, 1784. No fee. The father and John Farquhar, in Limehillock, Grange, cautioners.

April 22. George Gordon, son to George Gordon in Boginclock, p. to James Gordon & Co., jewellers; 7 years from Whitsunday, 1781. No fee. Patrick Gordon, sadler in Aberdeen, cautioner.

July 15. Thomas Burnett, son to Alexr. Burnett, gardener in the Hardgate, p. to William Seaton, baker; 5 years from 1st November, 1785. Fee, £6. The father and Alexr. Burnett, clerk to Alex. Scott, wright, cautioners.

August 13. John Robertson, son to William Robertson, taylor in Spittal, p. to John Murray, glazier; 6 years from 5th August, 1783. No fee. The father and Peter Robertson, staymaker, cautioners.

,, 28. Alexander Sutherland, son to the deceast Adam Sutherland, sometime farmer in Berryhill of Old Machar, p. to Peter Anderson, taylor; 6 years from 1st September, 1782. Fee, £3. William Sutherland, merchant in Udny, uncle to Alexander, cautioner.

November 3. William Morison, son to the deceased John Morison, late in Gilcomston, p. to Robert Taylor, baker; 5 years from 28th June, 1787. Fee, £5. Archibald Reid, baker, and John Christie, lastwright in Skenes Square, cautioners.

James Stillas, son of the deceased Alexander Stillas in Old Meldrum, p. to Archibald Reid, baker; 5 years from 2nd June, 1788. Fee, £6. William Ogilvie, merchant in Old Aberdeen, cautioner.

,, 12. William Walker, son to James Walker in ——, p. to Adam Watt, baker; 4 years from 20th Novr., 1784. Fee, £6. The father and John Walker, auctioneer, cautioners.

,, 27. Robert Machray, son to William Machray, walker at Walkmill of Bendach, p. to James Crombie, dyster in Gilcomston; 5 years from 5th December, 1783. No fee. The father and Robert Machray, dyer in Aberdeen, cautioner.

December 16. William Christie, son to Jas. Christie, farmer in Aberdeen, p. to James Christie, sadler; 5 years from 10th October, 1784. Fee, £15.

1789

January 15. James Massie, son of Robert Massie, late malster in Aberdeen, p. to John Ross, baker; 5 years from 1st February, 1785. Fee, £4. James Jaffray and George Jaffray, both wrights, cautioners.

,, 17. Alexr. Scott, son to James Scott, blacksmith, one of the boys educated in Robert Gordon's Hospital, p. to Geo. Craig, shoemaker; 5 years from 20th January, 1784. Fee, £100 Scots.

February 19. James Mennie, son to the deceast William Mennie in Blacktapp, p. to — Thomson, cooper; 4 years from 2nd June, 1785. Fee, £14. Alexander Lawson, shoemaker at Gilcomston, cautioner.

Alexander Browster, son of the deceast Alexr. Browster in Colonach, p. to Dorothy Smith alias Martin, relict of the deceast Robert Martin, baker; 5 years from 17th February, 1789. Fee, £5. William Donald in Colonach, cautioner.

James Duncan, son to Alexr. Duncan, p. to John Wallace, baker; 4 years from 17th August, 1785. Fee, £8.

May 11. Joseph Watson, son to William Watson, tacksman in Caweyford, parish of old Deer, p. to Alexander Mitchell, merchant; 4 years from 22nd June, 1785. Fee, £12. The father and John Todd, weaver in Pittymark house, Old Deer, cautioners.

ALEX. M. MUNRO.

Annals of the General Assembly, 1750.

Calculation, showing, at a medium, the necessary annual expense of a minister's family on the south side of the Forth, in which it is supposed that ministers, one with another, have three children, and that they are obliged to keep at least two women servants, and one man.

1. To the expense of maintaining the three servants per annum, at £3 12s each	£10	16	0
2. To the wages of two women servants at 16s 8d each, every half-year, and £1 10s for the half-year's wages of the man-servant, which is per annum	6	6	8
3. To the maintenance of the minister, his wife and three children, at no more than £1 12s 6d per quarter each, which is per annum	32	10	0
4. For clothing each of the above five, one with another, £3 per annum	15	0	0
5. To coals, or other fuel, candles, soap, and other small necessaries, yearly	8	0	0
6. To advice of physicians and for medicines, yearly	1	10	0
7. To the annual attendance on meetings of Presbyteries and Synods, and attendance on General Assemblies and their Commissions, one year with another	3	10	0
8. For buying books, one year with another	2	0	0
9. To the education of three children, supposed on the whole to cost £30 each, that is in all £90: and consequently (seeing it appears			

from the calculations relative to the widows' scheme, that ministers, one with another, live about thirty years in the ministry), the children's education may be computed, per annum at	3	0	0
10. To tear and wear of household furniture, bed and table linen, etc., per annum	1	0	0
	£83	12	8

N.B.—Several other articles of necessary expense might have been mentioned, such as charities, public and private, expense of births and burials, putting children to apprenticeships, and enabling them to do for themselves, which will vastly more than overbalance any advantage that may be supposed to arise from the present glebes, and any small profit of servants' work, when not employed about the necessary business of the family.

Inscriptions in St Andrew's Episcopal Church, Aberdeen.

(Continued.)

A large, powerful pipe organ placed in the organ chamber of the church, has a brass attached, inscribed—

Bryceson and Co., London.

A small pipe organ in the chancel has a brass attached. Translated from the Latin, it reads—

To the sacred memory of my mother, to whom at one time this organ belonged. John Dove Wilson, Doctor, both of Canon and Civil Law, presented this organ to St Andrew's Church, A.D., 1903; James Myers Danson, Doctor of Theology, D.D., being Rector. Let it sound to the praises of God.

John Dove Wilson, son of Dr Charles Wilson, of Kelso, and afterwards of Edinburgh, was born at Linton, Roxburghshire, 21st July, 1833, being educated at the Old Grammar School, Kelso, and at Edinburgh University, where he took the Arts and Law courses. In 1870, on the union of the Sheriffdoms of Aberdeen and Kincardine, Mr Wilson was transferred to Aberdeen as colleague of Sheriff-Substitute John Courie Thomson (died 23rd August, 1898). He retired from the bench in February, 1890, after 29 years of judicial labour. The honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred upon him by Aberdeen University, 1884. In the autumn of 1891, the Professorship of Law at Aberdeen University became vacant through the resignation of Dr George Grub (born Old Aberdeen, 4th April, 1812; died at Aberdeen, 25rd September, 1892), and the University appointed him to the post, which he relinquished in 1901. He married, in 1863, Anna Campbell Carnegie, eldest daughter of the late Mr John Carnegie of Redhall, Kincardineshire, and was survived by—

1. Charles Wilson, engineer in India.

2. John Carnegie Dove Wilson, born at Fettercsso, 27th April, 1865, M.A. (Aberdeen), 1885, and LL.B. (Edinburgh), 1888.

3. Anna Dove Wilson, an artist of considerable talent, who has frequently exhibited at local exhibitions.

Sheriff Wilson died at San Remo, Italy, 24th January, 1908, and was buried at Allenvale Cemetery, Aberdeen, in a grave to the right of his wife. The inscription on the right-hand panel of his memorial is in Latin. That to his wife on the left records that

HERE RESTS
ANNA CAMPBELL CARNEGIE,
DAUGHTER OF
JOHN CARNEGIE OF REDHALL,
WIFE OF
JOHN DOVE WILSON.
BORN, 1st AUGUST, 1842.
DIED, 15th JANUARY, 1901.

For further particulars see Littlejohn's "Sheriff Court Records" III., 127; Johnston's Roll of Graduates, University of Aberdeen, pp. 597-598; "In Memoriam" of 1908, pp. 144-149; and the "Aberdeen Weekly Free Press," 14th March, 1908. Sheriff Wilson bequeathed to the University of Aberdeen a portrait of himself painted by his daughter Anna. As captain of the Aberdeen Golf Club, 1874-5, his portrait appears in Smith's "Aberdeen Golfers" (London, 1909), p. 141.

The Very Rev. Dean Danson D.D., Dean of Aberdeen and Orkney, whose name is referred to, was the son of Robert Danson, and was born at Ingleton, West Riding of Yorkshire, 26th April, 1846. He took the degree of B.A. (Dublin), 1875, and M.A. in 1881, being appointed Incumbent of St Mary's Episcopal Church, Aberdeen, 1873; Episcopal Church, Arbroath, 1880; Incumbent and afterwards Rector of St Andrew's Episcopal Church, Aberdeen, 1881. The University of Aberdeen conferred on him the degree of D.D. in 1892. He died at 19 Bon-Accord Crescent, Aberdeen, 29th December, 1909, and was buried in Allenvale Cemetery, Aberdeen, to the right of his son, Gilbert Rayner Danson. A cross with three bases is inscribed—

IN LOVING MEMORY OF ANNIE SINCLAIR REES, CALLED TO REST APRIL 17, 1885. ALSO OF GILBERT RAYNER, BORN APRIL 27, 1886; DIED DECEMBER 4, 1896, NEPHEW OF THE ABOVE, AND FIFTH SON OF REV. J. M. DANSON, D.D., AND FRANCES ELLEN, HIS WIFE.

The monument erected to Dean Danson is a St Andrew's Cross. Resting on a rustic die and base, it stands 7ft. 6in. high. On the arms of the cross is cut the sacred monogram "I. H. S." The inscription is—

IN LOVING MEMORY OF JAMES MYERS DANSON, D.D., DEAN OF ABERDEEN AND ORKNEY, AND FOR 28 YEARS RECTOR OF S. ANDREW'S CHURCH, WHO ENTERED INTO HIS REST 29th DECEMBER, 1909, AGED 63 YEARS. R.I.P. "HE ASKED LIFE OF THEE, AND THOU GAVEST HIM A LONG LIFE, EVEN FOR EVER AND EVER"—Ps. xxi. 4.

Dean Danson occupied a foremost place in the religious and public life of Aberdeen, and an exceedingly interesting biography of him appears in "In Memoriam" of 1909, pp. 34-40 (with a reproduction of his latest portrait). His portrait taken in 1892 is given in "Pillars of Bon-Accord" (Aberdeen, 1892), and Mr Alexander Gammie has much to relate about him in his "Churches of Aberdeen," published last year.

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary, 1872.

January 8. At Auchaber, Forgue, Miss Wilson of Auchaber.

January 19. At 13 Panmure Place, Edinburgh, Anne Margaret Tower, widow of Rev. Thomas Gray, late Minister of the Free Church, Inverurie.

January 24. At Aberdeen, Ann Farquhar, widow of James Brodie Spottiswood of Muiresk.

February 5. At Ventnor, Isle of Wight, John Duthie of Cairnbulg.

February 10. At 5 Caroline Place, Sarah Ogston, widow of David Gill, painter, Aberdeen

February 8. At Drumrossie, William Douglas, only son of William Leslie, Esq. of Warthill and Drumrossie, aged 22.

March 1. At Balbithan House, in her 86th year, Mary, daughter of the late Charles Stuart, Esq. of Duncarn, M.D., and widow of John Burnett of Kemnay.

March 7. At 53 Bon-Accord Street, James Gibbon Scott, youngest son of the late Rear-Admiral David Scott, aged 52.

March 10. At 82 Queen Street, Colin Allan Philip, Advocate, aged 68.

March 7. At Belmont, Bridge of Allan, Jane, the beloved wife of Captain P. S. Simpson, and daughter of the late Rev. Alexander Macfarlane, Minister of Crathie.

March 25. At the Manse, New Deer, Rev. James Welsh, Minister of New Deer, in the 82nd year of his age and 41st of his ministry.

March 25. At the Manse, Leochel-Cushnie, Rev. Alexander Taylor, D.D., Minister of that parish, aged 65.

April 7. At 17 Rutland Square, Edinburgh, Adam Hay Gordon, Esq. of Avochie.

April 7 At Rome, Walter, second son of the late Hugh Lumsden, Esq. of Pitcaple.

April 27. At his house, Crown Street, Rev. Alexander Dyce Davidson, D.D., minister of the Free West Church, in the 65th year of his age and 40th of his ministry.

May 10. At Loirsbank, Cults, George Davidson, late bookseller, aged 66.

May 12. At Oldmeldrum, Rev. George Garioch.

May 13. At the Free Church Manse, Forglen, Rev. Alexander Balfour.

May 21. At the Schoolhouse, Drumblade, Mr James Leslie, Parochial Teacher.

June 3. At Rockferry, Cheshire, Rev. Alexander Kerr, second son of David Kerr, M.D., Aberdeen, aged 27.

June 19. At Learney, Jane, widow of the late William Innes, Esq. of Raemoir, aged 85.

June 27. At 6 Carden Place, Jane Kinnaird, relict of Rev. David Simpson, of Free Trinity Church, in her 81st year.

July 31. At Bellastraid, Rev. James Wattie, formerly Schoolmaster of Crimond, aged 80.

August 12. At 1 Carden Place, William Henderson, architect, in his 67th year.

August 12. At Elm Place, Banff, Mrs Gordon of Park, aged 79.

September 5. At Viewbank, Pitfodels, Christina Gorham, wife of James Collie, advocate.

September 10. At Donbank Cottage, Woodside, Elizabeth Scott, aged 19, eldest surviving daughter of the late Rev. John Abel, minister of Forgue.

September 8. At Bourtie Manse, Rev. James Bisset, D.D., minister of the parish, in the 78th year of his age and 47th of his ministry.

September 11. At 204 Union Street, Alexander Lyall Grant, M.D., etc., aged 28.

June 30. At Sale, Gippsland, John James Anderson, Esq., editor of the "Gippsland Times," eldest son of the late Rev. A. Anderson, minister of Crathie and Braemar.

October 9. At St Helier, Jersey, Miss Marjory Stewart, of Carnaveron, daughter of the late Rev. Patrick Stewart of Carnaveron, Minister of Kinneff.

October 27. At 3 Carden Terrace, Aberdeen, William Chalmers, late general manager of the Northern Assurance Company, in his 71st year.

October 27. At Peterhead, Thomas Arbuthnot, Esq., some time of Meethill, and many years Provost of Peterhead, aged 80.

November 14. At 5 Albyn Place, Francis Edmond, jun., Advocate in Aberdeen, aged 30.

November 15. At Forglen House, Sir George Samuel Abercromby, Bart., of Birkenbog and Forglen, aged 48.

November 22. At Grove Cottage, Cuparstone, Mrs Ferguson of Altens, aged 81.

November 26. At 152 Union Street, John Stuart, elder son of Robert Smith of Glenmillan, aged 16.

November 20. At 40 Low Street, Banff, Rev. John Manson, of the Free Church, Fyvie, in his 67th year.

December 2. At 85 Crown Street, Margaret Gibbon, aged 96, widow of William Livingston, M.D., Professor of Medicine in the University of Aberdeen.

December 7. At 19 Golden Square, Rev. Dr R. J. Brown, late Professor of Greek in Marischal College and University of Aberdeen, in his 80th year.

Queries.

567. Provost George More.—Would some reader oblige me with particulars as to the parentage, occupation, marriage, and descendants of George More, who, from 1795 to 1797, and again from 1807 to 1809 was Provost of Aberdeen?

Descendant.

568. Rait, Minister of Dunnottar.—Jokes are to be found in unexpected quarters. Rev. Hew Scott in his "Fasti" states that Mr Rait died in 1676, that he married his first wife, Elizabeth Allardes, in 1665, and then that he married (actually ten years after his death!) secondly Jean Edmonston. In addition, I find that in 1677 Mr Rait described as "late" his wife, Elizabeth Erskine, who had mortified money for behoof of the parish. Can anyone who has access to records, ecclesiastical, terrestrial, or celestial, clear up these mysteries?

M. R. R. M'G G.

569. Lord Sempill.—I have seen it stated that Hugh, 11th Lord Sempill, who acted as Brigadier-General at the battle of Culloden, was buried at Aberdeen. Is there any proof of this, or is it merely a tradition?

G. R.

570. Donald Farquharson Bandley.—What is known concerning Donald Farquharson, Bandley?

R. D.

Answers.

529. Hays of Monkshill.—The will of Margaret Pratt, spouse to James Hay, dyster at Bridgend of Fyvie, which was recorded at Aberdeen, 23rd November, 1764, might give information regarding the Hay family.

G. W.

565. William Davidson of Kerbaty.—Mr Davidson married, on 11th May, 1831, Miss Susan Gordon, daughter of Lewis Gordon, merchant, Aberdeen, then resident at Cairnery.

B. G.

566. Dr Francis Adams, Banchory.—"R. Y." will find a copy of the Latin inscription (with English translation) on the obelisk to Dr Adams at Bellfield in Jervise's "Epitaphs," I. p. 6.

W. S.

No. 132.—October 26, 1910.

Deer Forests and Sheep Farms.

In 1860 the deer forests were few and far between. They were mere remnants of the old forests of the time of James IV., who first put sheep in Ettrick Forest, and was ashamed to own it, although he gained thereby. He also had brood mares summering in the Inchcallan Forest, of which the Black Mount was an appendage, which mares and their followers he removed in winter to Falkland and other Lowland possessions of his. Along the ridge of Alba, and in mountains elsewhere, deer and shealings held their own stiffly, although with many changes, down to the institution of the sheep regime after Culloden days. Even after 1770 scattered deer were to be met with wherever the shealings still existed; and by a "timchioll mor," or great circuit drive-in, they could be gathered together at the "co-sheilgs" and "iolleraigs," which had been the slaughtering places from immemorial times. The Jacobite rebellion of 1715 received its baptism of deer blood at such a great circuit drive on the Braes of Mar. When James VI. went to England the Royal forests in the Highlands were still of large extent. Bit by bit they were given out or sold to private owners, and after 1770 nothing but a shadowy ghost of them remained.

It must be acknowledged that, in the old days, the Royal forests and the forests belonging to the great nobles were often refuges for outlaws and thieves, and that the sheep regime marked the full establishment of the reign of law in what had been the deer forest solitudes of the olden times. The vacant shealing huts, within and on the skirts of the forests, provided the outlaws and thieves with winter residences, and they killed the deer for food. When in peril in one place, they could shift off readily to another place. This shifting about gave rise to a sort of trade union between the outlaws of districts widely apart. The Clan Gregor, with their certainly real, although to this day not clearly ascertained grievances, from the turmoils consequent on the disaster of Flodden to the death of Rob Roy, furnished the outlaws with the leaders that are most notorious in song, legends, and Privy Council minutes—such as Duncan Ladosach, Gregor of Glenstrae, beheaded at Bealach in 1570, Alastair, his son, who officiated at the gruesome ceremony over the head of the murdered King's forester in the kirk at Balquhidder, and fought with the Colquhouns at Glenfruin; Gildoyy and John Dubh Geair of Charles the First's time; and Patrick Roy, brother of John of Glenstrae, who seized upon Menzies of Weem's Braes of Rannoch lands during the Covenant War disturbances, when almost all the outlaws, hoping for spoils, made themselves inlaws by taking the side of the King, and fighting for him most manfully. Lochaber, Glencoe, Moidart, Arisaig, the islanders, and Gunns of the North were much associated with the Clan Gregor, and the whole of the lawless had a market in Ireland for such of their spoils as they did not need for themselves. Until Jacobitism received its death-blow, loyalty to the dethroned dynasty secured the protection of great chiefs and landowners to raiders and outlaws. The law-abiding population could defend themselves, and did defend themselves in their winter towns, but were never quite safe from having their cattle stolen from their shealings. It was not so much as a robber as an insurer against depredations by other robbers, that Rob Roy raised his "blackmail," and in Perthshire and Argyleshire, in a unique way, gained far from ill-deserved popularity.

When outlaws and raiding bands were put down, and individual thieves were got well in hand, thanks to the combined forces of law and religion, sheep could for the first time be safely put upon shealings and on ancient forest lands. Imperative economic reasons—the sure hope of making much profit for themselves—induced the larger number of the Highland proprietors of the last thirty years of the eighteenth century to do so. But still not a few of them were so tenacious of use and wont that they declined to move on with the main body of their class, and went down to their graves leaving their estates to their heirs much in the same condition as they found them. The men, however, who would not go in for change were not the owners of large farms and shealing stretches, but owners of small or moderately-sized estates, with, for the Highlands, liberal shares of arable land.

Enlightened self-interest induced Highland nobles, chiefs, and other landlords, between 1770 and 1800, to convert the mountain solitudes into sheep runs, until there was nothing left of them unstocked but the few old forests, or bits of them, which a few magnates kept still under deer for their own and their friends' hunting. But I question if any of them thought then of ruthlessly breaking and brushing aside the thousand kindly ties with the people who lived on their lands. They were, like those people, for a long time blind to the impending doom of the domestic industries, in the profits of which the coal-less districts fairly well participated, until new machinery driven by steam power, division of labour, and concentration in towns and mineral districts, changed the whole industrial order. If evictions were thought of—as they must have been by the foreseeing—they were not much spoken of or carried out until after Waterloo, when the Highlands lost their previous value as a nursery for soldiers, and when the calanas was already suffering from the blight which was slowly and surely killing it.

Feudalism and clannishness—in the Highlands the two always by a mysterious process amalgamated together—simple habits of life, and

simple tools of industry, gave the superseded order a stability which the lapse of centuries did not essentially change. The case is now entirely different. Who of the landlord promoters of the sheep regime foresaw that in a century sheep-farming should commence to be superseded by deer forests in more than the places which had been of old devoted to shealings and deer? Change follows change in endless chain. To change the metaphor, rural life is tossing on a heaving sea of changes in a badly-equipped boat striving to struggle to land.

When I went to England in 1860, mountain sheep-farming had reached its highest point of expansion. Grouse moors and fishings were also paying high rents, and shooting lodges were being run up. A few derelict Highland estates had passed into the hands of new owners, but there was yet no reason to suppose the change of ownership should proceed very far when the rent-rolls of Highland properties had so remarkably swelled up, and when old landed families were, or should be, tenacious in keeping a firm hold on the ancestral lands. After twenty-years' absence from Scotland, I found when I came to Inverness that the 1860 situation was undergoing a series of changes, the end of which has not yet been reached. For one thing, the profit and loss scale was turning decidedly against sheep-runs, the rents of which were falling, and in favour of deer forests, the rents of which were rising, and the purchasing demand for which was far exceeding the supply.

The Earl of Dudley, as tenant of the Blackmount Forest, was paying a rent of £4500 to the Earl of Breadalbane. It was, however, an American millionaire, Mr W. L. Winans, who "topped creation" by his taking of moors and forests between Beauly and Kintail. He took all he could get regardless of the huge cost he had to pay, and was vexed that he could not get more. He paid a rent of £5750 to Lord Lovat, of £2940 to The Chisholm, and of £1104 to Mr Mackenzie of Kintail. And for all this extravagance he could not be called a true sportsman. He believed in drives of deer and grouse, and in sumptuous hill picnics. Others of his countrymen who rented Highland forests, shootings, and fishings, were true sportsmen, and so, too, were his own sons. Sir John Ramsden, who purchased 138,000 acres of mountain land in Upper Badenoch, including Ben Alder Forest, may be taken to represent the class of new proprietors who bought estates in the Highlands, mainly for sporting purposes. Sir John Ramsden was not indeed the first English purchaser of a great Highland estate, for Lord Dudley had been before him as owner of Glengarry, which, however, he did not keep long before he sold it to that good Scotsman, Mr Ellice. The earlier purchasers got better bargains than the later ones. Prices rose as if bidders had gone mad, and the temptation to sell was too strong to be resisted by many old owners who were either burdened with debts and settlements, or anxious to provide their children with means for making new starts in life under promising conditions. So all over the Highlands and Islands land has, bit by bit, and sometimes in big lumps, for now a long period, been passing from old families to new owners. The boom is yet on districts where sheep-runs can easily be changed into deer forests. But I doubt whether it can last much longer at its present height. It has slackened already in crofter community districts. Mr Andrew Carnegie got the estate of Skibo at a price much reduced from what his predecessor, Mr Sutherland, had paid for it.—"Reminiscences and Reflections of an Octogenarian Highlander," by Duncan Campbell. (Inverness, 1910.)

Boharm Parish Tokens.

The following notes, furnished by the Rev. Stephen Ree, Boharm, bear on the tokens of this parish, which are mentioned by Mr James Anderson, Aberdeen, in "Scottish Notes and Queries," 2nd Series, IV., p. 40—

The "B" tokens must have been made before 1783, when the parish of Boharm was enlarged by the addition of a portion of the parish of Dundurcus; but I have not found in the Session Records any reference to tokens that would justify a more precise date. The modern tokens made for "six tables," were made in Edinburgh in 1857.

The part of Dundurcus lying along the river Spey is called Dundurcus Vale.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

Register of Indentures for the Burgh of Aberdeen.

(Continued.)

1789.

May 12. Alexander Kiloh, son to John Kiloh, in Mains of Elrick, p. to John Smith, wright; 5 years from Whitsunday, 1784. Fee, £10.

" 14. James Wilson, son of Peter Wilson, weaver in Aberdeen, p. to William Leighton, taylor; 5 years from 2nd August, 1785. The father to maintain in bed and board, the first year of the apprenticeship.

" 15. Thomas Shepherd, son of the deceased Thomas Shepherd, late cooper in Aberdeen, one of the boys of Robert Gordon's Hospital, p. to John Smith, wright. The treasurer of the Hospital to pay £100 Scots, and Mr James Brands, accomptant to the Banking Company of Aberdeen, cautioner, to pay £6 13s 4d additional. The apprenticeship to be 5 years from 22nd June, 1784.

William Martin, son to John Martin, in Kirktown in Nether Banchory, p. to John Imray, baker; 5 years from 19th June, 1784. Fee, £5.

June 13. William Johnston, son of the deceased John Johnston, late farmer in the

parish of Dyce, p. to Ninian Johnston, merchant; 4 years from 21st June, 1785. Fee, £10. Alexander Dyce, merchant in Aberdeen, cautioner.

June 27. Alexander Adam, son to Alexander Adam, workman in Aberdeen, p. to William Gray, shoemaker; 5½ years from 1st June, 1784. The father to provide bed, board, and lodging for first 2 years.

September 6. William Shepherd, son to George Shepherd at Greenburn, Craibston, p. to James Dawney, shoemaker; 5 years from 9th November, 1784. Fee, £2 15s.

,, 26. William Cassie, residenter in Aberdeen, p. to Alexander Walker, skinner; 5 years from 4th December, 1784. No fee. William Craik, residenter, and William Cassie, residenter and father to the apprentice, cautioners.

October 16. George Black, brother to James Black, jun., blacksmith in Footdee, p. to his brother; 5 years from 11th November, 1784. No fee. James Black, gardener in Banchory, their father, Thomas Black, gardener in Gilcomston, brother to the above James, and William Argo, blacksmith, cautioners.

November 25. George Finnie, son to George Finnie, burgess of guild, one of the boys of Robert Gordon's Hospital, p. to William Dawson, taylor; 5 years from 5th December, 1784. Fee, £100 Scots. The father and Robert M'Pherson in Old Aberdeen, cautioners.

December 11. Alexander Leith, son of John Leith, post in Old Meldrum, p. to William Seton, baker; 5 years from 3rd June, 1785. Fee, £4. The father and Robert Milne at Bridge of Don, cautioners.

,, 17. Edward French, son of the deceast Edward French, weaver, p. to Alexr. Paterson, shoemaker; 5 years from 1st January, 1785. Fee, £100 Scots, he being one of the boys of Robert Gordon's Hospital. William Dewar, merchant, and Will. Duncan, Mr. of the Work house, cautioners.

,, 24. Colin Robertson, son of the deceased George Robertson, late merchant, one of the boys of Robert Gordon's Hospital, p. to John Leslie, goldsmith; 5 years from 1st February, 1785. Fee, £100 Scots. Anne Allan, his mother, and James Gordon, goldsmith, cautioners.

1790.

February 22. John Bannerman, son to John Bannerman, mason in Aberdeen, p. to Robert Smith, merchant; 3 years from 12th June, 1787. Fee, £12.

March 12. Alexr. Dalgarno, son of the deceast Alexr. Dalgarno, manufacturer in Peterhead, p. to Chas. Walker, merchant; 5 years from 25th June, 1785. No fee. Jas. Dalgarno, merchant in Peterhead, cautioner.

April 16. William Bartlet, son of the deceast Jas. Bartlet, farmer at Frosterhill, p. to William Knowles, wright; 5 years from 11th August, 1786. Fee, £10. George Bartlet, farmer in Frosterhill, and James Baillie, merchant, cautioners.

,, 19. John Allan, son to John Allan, burgess of guild, one of the boys in Gordon's Hospital, p. to Nathaniel Gillet, goldsmith; 5 years from 19th May, 1785. Fee, £100 Scots.

William Sutherland, son of Adam Sutherland, deceast, p. to Peter Anderson, taylor; 6 years from 1st May, 1784. Fee, £5, and a bedding of cloaths. Al. Sutherland, journeyman taylor in Aberdeen, and William Sutherland, merchant in Udny, cautioners.

Archibald Ramsay, son of Samuel Ramsay, tidesman in Aberdeen; p. to James Ramsay, taylor; 6 years from 10th May, 1784. Fee, £1. The father and John Smith, tidesman, cautioners.

,, 30. Alexr. Ingram, son of John Ingram, labourer at the brickilns near Aberdeen, p. to George Watson, baker; 5 years after Martinmas, 1785. Fee, £5. The father, Adam Ingram, labourer at the brickilns, and Francis Gerard, stabler, cautioners.

Andrew Symmers, son to William Symmers, porter in Aberdeen, p. to David Middleton, weaver; 5 years from 4th June, 1785. The father and John Chrystal, merchant cautioners.

Robert Watson, residing in Aberdeen, p. to Margaret Morice, baker; 5 years from 1st April, 1786. Fee, £8.

May 4. George Murray, son of William Murray in Meldrum, deceast, p. to Margaret Morice and Company; 5 years from 1st June, 1785. Fee, £8. William Murray, Lochter, Meldrum, cautioner.

Andrew Robb, son of John Robb, overseer of the salmon fishings at Nether Don, p. to Margaret Morice and Company; 5 years from 1st January, 1789. Fee, £7.

George Machray, son of Robert Machray, dyster in Old Aberdeen, p. to Margaret Morice and Company; 5 years from 1st May, 1789. Fee, £8. The father and Alexander Thomson at Stocket Brae, cautioners.

June 10. William Gibson, son to William Gibson in Hassacks, one of the boys in Gordon's Hospital, p. to George Smith, glazier; 5 years from 11th April, 1786. Fee £100 Scots.

,, 17. Alexander Durward, son of the deceased William Durward, late merchant in Aberdeen, one of the boys in Gordon's Hospital, p. to John Smith, wright; 5 years from 20th June, 1785. Fee, £100 Scots. Christian Burnett, his mother, and Charles Copland, merchant, cautioners.

ALEXANDER M. MUNRO.

Value of a Parliamentary Vote Eighty Years Ago.

To show the spirit with which an English election is contested, we may mention that an operative, an Englishman, presently residing in this place [Aberdeen], having a vote for Durham, was sent for by one of the candidates to give him his vote. He went, and after all his expenses had been paid, he reached Aberdeen with £24 in his pocket!—"Aberdeen Journal," August 25, 1830.

Birth Extraordinary.

Last week, as the Excise riding officers of the Inverness district were on a survey in the parish of Daviot, they discovered marks of a recent distillation, which induced them to make a strict search in the neighbourhood. The dwelling and out-houses were examined without effect, and a second attempt was made with the same result, when at length suspicion fell upon a female, who had retained her seat in the kitchen, enveloped in blankets, notwithstanding their request to have her removed to facilitate their search. She begged to be permitted to sit still, as she was, she said, far gone in the family way. One of the excisemen, however, lifted up the dame in his arms, when out rolled a couple of ankers of genuine smuggled whisky! — "Aberdeen Journal," January 6, 1830.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1873.

January 13. At Sowerby, Thirsk, Yorkshire, James Rust, Esq., C.M., M.D., only son of Williamson Rust, Esq. of Auchinclech, aged 37. Also at the same place on the 18th inst., Williamson, eldest son of the said James Rust, aged 4 years and 10 months.

January 28. At the Manse, Kintore, suddenly, Rev. William Ross, Minister of the Parish, aged 65 years.

January 27. At Millbank, Udny, Barbara Smith, widow of John Murr, Cairnbrogie, Tarves, in her 83rd year.

January 29. At Dollar, Rev. John Milne, LL.D., late Principal of Dollar Institution, aged 65.

January 26. At London, Alexander Crombie, eldest son of Mr Brebner, Advocate, Aberdeen, and of the Audit Office, Somerset House, London, aged 41.

February 23. At 247 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow Isabella, daughter of Rev. Walter Graham, of Forgue, Aberdeenshire.

February 23. At Sheddlecoote Villa, Torquay, Mary, widow of William Urquhart, Esq. of Craigston Castle, Aberdeen-shire [and daughter of Alexander Fraser of Fraserfield].

March 11. At Kintore, Rev. John Barclay, late Schoolmaster of Kinellar, aged 83.

March 12. At Kintore, William Davidson, sometime Provost of Kintore, aged 85.

January 16. At Brisbane, aged 37, William Anderson, late of Birkhead, Tambo, eldest son of Sir Alexander Anderson, Aberdeen.

March 24. At 31 Bon-Accord Terrace, George Gilbert Brown, M.D., late Inspector-General of Hospitals, Bengal, aged 73.

March 19. At 4 Langstane Place, William Davidson, Paper Manufacturer, Mugiemoss, aged 68.

March 19. At 25 Albyn Place, Annie, wife of C. B. Fisher, Esq., Captain, Forfar and Kincardine Militia Artillery.

March 21. At Ellon Castle, Alexander Gordon of Ellon, aged 90.

March 13. At Upper Norwood, London, Rev. Abercromby L. Gordon, formerly Minister of Greyfriars, Aberdeen.

March 31. At Banff, in her 74th year, Mrs Elizabeth Farquharson, or Keith, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Robert Farquharson of Allargue, Minister of Logie-Coldstone, and widow of Alexander Keith, Esq., Netherthird, Auchterless.

April 2. At 20 Rubislaw Terrace, Robert Spottiswood Farquhar Spottiswood of Muiresk.

April 12. At 38 Albany Street, North Leith, from an accident, George Pittendrigh, colour manufacturer, son of the late Alexander Pittendrigh, Esq., advocate, Aberdeen.

April 22. Suddenly at Aberdeen, at ten o'clock, when about, in his usual official capacity, to open the Circuit Court of Justiciary, Rev. Thomas Dewar, Minister of the South Parish Church.

April 17. At Springbank House, Aberdeen, George Cooper Roger, C.E., aged 32.

April 23. At Pitmedden House, Udny, Lady Seton, [Eliza Henrietta, second daughter of Henry Lumsden of Cushnie, widow of John Wilson, H.E.I.C.S., and wife of Sir William Cooto Seton, Bart., aged 69.]

April 27. At 7 Low Street, Banff, Mrs Duff, widow of Rev. William Duff, Minister of Grange.

April 25. At the F.C. Manse, Auchterarder, Ann Angus, relict of Mr John Thomson, surgeon, Aberdeen, in her 71st year.

April 21. At Mount Braddon, Torquay, Rev. John Burnett Stuart of Dens and Crichie.

April 29. At Aberdeen, Rev. George Tulloch, LL.D.

May 3. At Manse of Keig, Rev. Alexander Low, in his 73rd year of age and 40th of ministry.

May 16. At 42 Albyn Place, Mrs Gordon, late of Sheddocksley, in her 90th year.

May 27. At Wellington Place, Aberdeen, Mrs Yeats, Sen., of Auquharney, aged 90.

May 21. At Forbes Street Cottage, Helen Malcolm, aged 40, third daughter of the late Andrew Malcolm, M.A., Parochial Schoolmaster, Cushnie.

May 22. At Kinbroon, Mrs Leslie [Barbara Niven, widow of Robert Leslie], late of Rothie, in her 77th [?78th] year.

May 16. At London, Alexander Mitchell of Stow. Born at Aberdeen in 1831, he entered the army in 1850, served about a year in the Crimea, and was returned as Liberal member for Berwick in 1865.

June 12. At Powis House, Hugh Fraser Leslie, Esq. of Powis.

April 18. At Brighton, Mrs Margaret Leith Donald, widow of William Hay, parochial schoolmaster of Huntly, in her 70th year.

May 30. At Barcelona, William Rickart-Hepburn, Esq. of Rickarton, D.L., Kincardineshire, aged 72.

July 22. At Springbank, Dee Street, Elizabeth, fifth daughter of the late Rev. Dr Alex. Smith, Chapel of Garioch [aged 60].

July 16. At the house of her Brother-in-law, Dr Garden, Alford, Helen Taylor, widow of Rev. James Farquharson, LL.D., F.R.S., Minister of the parish of Alford, aged 73.

August 11. At the Firs, Murtle, near Aberdeen, Harriet Stuart Forbes, wife of Alexander Simpson, procurator-fiscal of Aberdeen and Kincardine, aged 37.

August 17. At Banchory, Alexander Sharp Shand, Esq. of Templeland.

August 21. At 16 Rutland Square, Edinburgh, Arthur Forbes Gordon, Esq. of Rayne.

August 31. At Invernettie, Peterhead, James Arbuthnot, Esq. of Invernettie, aged 52.

September 22. At Alford, Dr Garden, aged 63.

September 27. At 33 Union Place, Rev. John Wilson, Minister of the North Parish, aged 80.

September 28. At Crobhlair Cottage, Alford, Rev. Hugh M'Connach, aged 74.

October 11. At Belhelvie Lodge, Hay, wife of Colonel Thomas Lumsden, C.B., of Belhelvie Lodge [and daughter of Peter Burnet of Elrick, aged 74].

October 20. At Brighouse, Yorkshire, Helen, widow of William Forbes Robertson, Esq. of Hazlehead.

October 25. At 19 Union Place, James Torrie, M.D., in his 83rd year.

October 27. At Wellwood, Cults, George Davidson, merchant, Aberdeen, in the 80th year of his age.

October 28. At Portlethen, Robert Walker, Farmer and Land Valuator, in his 70th year.

October 25. At 21 Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh, Christian, wife of A. N. Forbes-Gordon, Esq. of Rayne, and daughter of James Dalrymple, Esq. of Langlee.

November 1. At 21 Union Place, George Collie of Morkeu, in the 84th year of his age.

October 30. At 10 Albyn Terrace, Mary Smith, widow of Alexander Burness, Esq. of Mastrick.

November 1. At 61 Dee Street, Agnes Milne, widow of Rev. George Ross Monro, Minister of Huntly, in her 90th year.

November 9. At Newtonhill, Brompton, Canada, Caroline M'Kay, widow of William Smith, Advocate in Aberdeen, and second daughter of Andrew M'Kay, formerly of Newtonhill, Fetteresso.

December 11. At 19 Cromwell Place, South Kensington, London, Mary Isabella Urquhart [only child of William Urquhart of Craigston], widow of William Pollard Urquhart, Esq. of Kinturk and Castle Pollard, Westmeath, and of Craigston, Aberdeenshire.

December 28. At 252 Union Street, Mary Jane Hargrave, wife of Dr Alexander Ogston, aged 25.

Queries.

571. Blairton.—A Gregory owned Blairton in the eighteenth century. What is known concerning him?

D. R.

572. George Fraser, Sub-Principal, King's College in 1684.—Can any reader supplement the interesting particulars respecting Mr Fraser, as recorded in Mr P. J. Anderson's "King's College Officers and Graduates" (New Spalding Club), p. 42?

R. D.

573. Menzies Family of Pitfodels.—In what graveyard were the various members of the family of Menzies of Pitfodels buried?

V.

574. Alexander Stewart of Colpnay.—What is the date of his death and in what graveyard were his remains interred?

Relative.

Answers.

567 Provost George More.—Provost More was the eldest son of Gilbert More of Raeden, Aberdeen, and his wife Helen Shepherd. The Provost, like his father, was a merchant in Aberdeen. He married twice, (1) on 9th June, 1787, Jane, eldest daughter of Alexander Innes of Breda and Cowie, Commissary Clerk of Aberdeen; (2) on 21st March, 1795, Harriet Beauvais, youngest daughter of Lewis Beauvais, wine merchant, London. By these marriages, the Provost had fourteen of a family, of whom Gilbert, H.E.I.C.S., died, unmarried, at Singapore, 25th August, 1830; George, major, H.E.I.C.S., married Jane, daughter of James Mowat, manufacturer, Aberdeen, with issue; and Alexander died 29th April, 1875. Several of these particulars are culled from Munro's "Memorials of the Aldermen, Provosts, and Lord Provosts of Aberdeen," p.p. 256-57.

B. R. A.

569. Lord Sempill.—Hugh, 11th Lord Sempill, was interred in Drum's Aisle, Aberdeen, 1st December, 1746. The St Nicholas Kirkwork Accounts verify the fact.

H.

570. Donald Farquharson, Bandley.—Mr Farquharson, after occupying Bandley, was in Hatton of Skene, and subsequently in Lairshill. He probably died in 1753, as his will was recorded at Aberdeen 7th September of that year.

G. G.

No. 133.—November 2, 1910.

THOMAS FRENCH.

Famous Scottish Mason.

In the closing years of the fifteenth century there was born at Linlithgow Thomas French [occasionally called Franch], who was destined to become one of the leading master masons in Scotland. It is now impossible to ascertain where he learned the mason trade, but probably his proficiency arose more from a refined taste, perseverance, and making good use of his hands than from actual training. While comparatively young in years, his skill came under the notice of the Scottish Bishops, who were the leading builders of the period. When, therefore, Bishop Gavin Dunbar resolved to add to the Cathedral of St Machar the aisle, afterwards known as "Dunbar's Aisle," he brought French north and placed the execution of the work in his hands. On its completion, to the satisfaction of all concerned, the Bishop entrusted French with the building of the Bridge of Dee, which, notwithstanding delays and difficulties, was also brought to a successful completion in 1527. The structure, which has braved the floods and storms of nearly four centuries, still stands as a memorial to the builder's skill.

Up to this stage historians are agreed regarding French, but the following defaced inscription cut on the outer west wall of Dunbar's Aisle:—

HEIR LYES THOMAS THE SON OF THOMAS
FRANCH MASTER MASO . . . 1530.

has encouraged at least one local author to assert (without quoting any authority) that French himself died soon after the Bridge of Dee "work was completed, and is buried near Bishop Dunbar at Old Machar."

Let us see how authorities bear upon the subject? Mylne, in his work the "Master Masons of Scotland," gives the Old Machar inscription thus—

HEIR LYIES THOMAS THE SON OF TOMAS
FRANCH, MASTER MASON OF BRIG OF DEE
AND THIS ISLE 1530.

The presumption therefore is that French lived after 1530, and the following extract from Rev. Dr John Ferguson's "Linlithgow Palace," pp. 110-11, seems not only to prove it conclusively, but to account for the title "King's Mason" being afterwards conferred upon French.

"The alterations which were made by James V. on the palace of Linlithgow were begun on 1st February, 1534-5. At this time, Linlithgow had among its craftsmen a builder of the name of French, who had built the bridge of Dee and a portion of St Machar's Cathedral, and who, at the request of the king, had returned from Aberdeen to his native town that he might begin work on the palace. French was appointed Master-mason. He had under him ten other masons, with the necessary number of quarrymen and labourers, all of whom worked for fifteen weeks, French receiving 20s weekly, four of his masons receiving 15s each weekly, and the other six receiving 12s each weekly. His labourers and barrowmen received 5s weekly. Though it is to be regretted that the accounts from which these figures have been taken give no indication of the nature of the work done, yet they show that during these fifteen weeks a sum of £132 was expended, and that, whatever the nature of the work may have been, French had given entire satisfaction to his Royal employer by the manner in which he had performed it. So great, indeed, was the satisfaction which French's work had given to the King, that he wrote to Hamilton, his Master of Works, on 22nd April, 1535, instructing him to pay to French the sum of £20, as a 'deserved reward' and suitable expression of the great pleasure which his work had given him."

The Duke of Gordon Monument on Tor Alvie.

There is a striking and conspicuous monument to the memory of the fifth and last Duke of Gordon on the summit of Tor Alvie, a hill above Kinrara, between Aviemore and Kingussie—a tall column, about 90 feet high, with an inscription (in English, Gaelic, and Latin) on three sides of the base. The following account of the laying of the foundation-stone appeared in the "Aberdeen Journal" of August 28, 1839:—

The foundation-stone of the Kinrara Monument, to the memory of his Grace the late Duke of Gordon, was, on Wednesday, the 14th instant, laid with masonic honours, in presence of Lords Cosmo and Alexander Russell, Cluny Macpherson, Mr Burn, W.S., Rev. Mr M'Donald, Alvie, Rev. Charles Grant, Rothiemurchus, Rev. John Mathieson, Raitts, Colonel Mitchell, C.B., Colonel D. Macpherson, R.H., Major John Macpherson, Capt. Lauchlan Macpherson, Biallid, Captain Æneas M. Macpherson, Nuide, Captain John Cattanach, Strone, Mr Macpherson, banker, Kingussie, etc., etc., and a great concourse of people who gathered from all parts of the country to witness the ceremony. After being properly arranged at Kinrara House, the procession proceeded to the summit of Tor Alvie, on which the monument is to be erected.

The master of the ceremonies then deposited in a cavity in the stone a hermetically-sealed bottle, containing some of the coins of the present reign, a copy of the "Inverness Courier" and "Herald," and a piece of Parchment, bearing the following inscription—

"On the 14th day of August, in the year of Our Lord, 1839, and in the third year of the reign of our most gracious Majesty Queen Victoria: The foundation stone of this column, erected by Voluntary Subscription, to the Memory of the for ever to be lamented

George, fifth and last Duke of Gordon,

Who, at the time of his death, which took place at London, on the 28th day of May, 1836, being then aged 66 years, was a General in the Army, a Privy Councillor, Lord Lieutenant of Aberdeen, Chancellor of the Marischal College, Aberdeen, Colonel of the 3rd, or Scots Fusilier Guards, Governor of Edinburgh Castle, President of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, Cock of the North, etc., etc., etc.; Was laid with Masonic honours, by Cluny Macpherson, in presence of a large concourse of Subscribers, and a large concourse of spectators, on the summit of the hill of Kinrara, commonly called Tor Alvie. At this Era, Colonel the Hon. Francis William Grant of Grant, M.P., was Lord Lieutenant, his son Francis William Grant, Esq., member of Parliament, and William Fraser Tytler, Esq. Sheriff-Depute, of this county of Inverness. [Then followed the names of the Committee of Management.] The proposal to erect this monument originated with the gentlemen of Badenoch, and was munificently supported by their friends at home and abroad. This Scroll, together with some of the Coins of the present Reign, and the newspapers of the day, is deposited in a bottle, under the foundation stone, where it is hoped they may remain undisturbed for countless generations to come."

The stone being laid and properly adjusted, the mallet was handed to Cluny Macpherson, who gave three knocks on the stone with it; and having addressed the company in suitable terms,

The Rev. Mr Macdonald offered up a very impressive and appropriate prayer, and the ceremony concluded.

Plenty of mountain dew having been provided for the occasion, Cluny Macpherson then proposed the memory of the late Duke of Gordon, which was drunk in solemn silence, after which the procession returned in the same order to the place whence it set out, and having there sat down, the following healths were drunk with doffed bonnets, viz.—The Duchess of Gordon, the Duchess of Bedford, Duke of Bedford, Duke of Richmond, Cluny Macpherson, the Committee of Management, etc., etc.

The company then separated.

At six o'clock in the evening, a number of the gentlemen engaged in the ceremony sat down to dinner in Pitmain Inn. The chair was taken by Cluny Macpherson, supported on the right by Colonel Mitchell, Mr Burn, etc., etc.; and on the left by Major John Macpherson, Captain Macpherson, Biallid, etc.; Colonel D. Macpherson officiated as croupier.

A Garden of St Columba.

It is related that Columba, with twelve of his favourite disciples, left Ireland in 563 A.D. in a little curach built of wickerwork covered with hide, arriving on Whitsun Eve at the "lonely, beautiful, and soft-aired Iona," which subsequently remained his home down to the date of his death in 597. The Highlands—indeed, the whole country north of the Clyde and the Forth—were at that time, we are told, like a vast wilderness, without way or road through the thick, dark woods—the hills extensive and full of wild beasts. But in spite of all this, Columba persevered. During four-and-thirty years he never rested nor wearied in the work of founding churches and spreading the Gospel of Christ. In his day he established 300 churches, besides founding over 100 monasteries, and as he penetrated in the course of his mission so far north as Inverness, the probability undoubtedly is that the old church of Kingussie was one of the number thus planted by him.

Little or no reliable information regarding the old Kingussie church earlier than the twelfth century is extant. In Douglas's "Baronage of Scotland" we read that about the middle of that century Muriach, the historic parson of Kingussie, then a large and honourable benefice, became, on the death of his brother without issue, head of his family, and succeeded to the chiefship of Clan Chattan. He obtained a dispensation from the Pope, and married about 1173 a daughter of the Thane of Calder, by whom he had five sons.

Surnames about this time having become hereditary, Macpherson—that is, "Son of the Parson"—became the distinguishing clan appellation of the descendants of Muriach's second son, who, in consequence of the death of the eldest son without issue, became the senior or principal branch of Muriach's posterity.

In the troublous times of the Reformation, we have a striking example of the "unfeigned charity" so touchingly inculcated by the good St Columba with his dying breath more than a thousand years previously, and one that reflects no little credit upon Badenoch. To meet the requirements both of those who clung to the old faith and those who had embraced the new a plank of bog-fir was fixed into St Columba's at Kingussie, from wall to wall, thus dividing the church. In the end containing the altar the priest was allowed to officiate, while the Protestant preacher and his flock occupied the farther extremity.

Somewhere in this Garden of Sleep hallowed by St Columba, although no trace can now be found of the actual grave, there rests the dust of the celebrated forester of the Fairy Corry, a native of Cowal, in Argyllshire. This hero was of a branch of the MacLeods of Raasay, and being fair-haired his descendants were called Clann Mhic-illebhain—that is, children of the fair (literally white) haired man, who now call themselves by the surname of Whyte. The forester was universally believed to have had a Leannan-Sith (a fairy sweetheart), who followed him wherever he went.

Mr Duncan Whyte, of Glasgow, one of the eighth generation in direct descent from the forester, communicated to me in Gaelic sundry very interesting traditions which have come down regarding his famous ancestor. In the year 1644 the Earl of Montrose was in the field with an army on behalf of King Charles I.; while the Earl of Argyll had the chief command of the Covenanters' forces. Montrose was burning and pillaging in the north when Argyll re-

ceived instructions to go in pursuit of him. The forester was in Argyll's army, and the fairy sweetheart, in the shape of a white hind, followed the troops wherever they went. While they were resting in the neighbourhood of Ruthven Castle, in Badenoch, some of the officers began to mock Argyll for allowing the hind to be always following the army. Their ridicule roused his wrath, and he commanded his men to fire at the hind. This was done without a particle of lead piercing her hair. Some observed that the forester was not firing, although pointing his gun at the hind like the rest, and he was accused to Argyll. He then received strict orders to fire at the hind. "I will fire at your command, Argyll," said the forester, "but it will be the last shot that I shall ever fire," and it happened as he said. Scarcely was the charge out of his gun when he fell dead on the field. The fairy gave a terrific scream, and rose like a cloud of mist up the shoulder of the neighbouring mountain, and from that time was never seen following the army. It has been believed by every generation since that the fairy left a charm with the descendants of the forester, which shall stick to them to the twentieth generation.

In the enclosure which marks the burial-place of the Phoness branch of the Clan Macpherson there rests, beside the dust of his near relative the famous Black Officer, all that is mortal of a noted Malcolm Macpherson. Like many Highlanders of his time, Macpherson had imbibed no small share of the Jacobite indignation against the French for their faithless conduct towards the one whom he believed to be the true heir to the Crown. So deep was his exasperation against the "traitors," as he termed them, and so long did he harbour his resentment, that when close upon 70 years of age he joined the 78th Highlanders (of which a brother of Cluny of the '45 had become captain) and took part in the siege of Quebec in 1759. Rushing with the impetuosity of a Highlander, and in utter disregard of his own life, into the thickest of the fight, he performed deeds of extraordinary daring and bravery. Wielding with deadly effect his powerful sword, which is said to have been in the Phoness family for close upon 300 years, he succeeded in hewing down so many Frenchmen that his conduct ultimately attracted the notice of General Townshend, who commanded the brigade. Observing Macpherson, when hostilities had ceased, regarding his handiwork with grim satisfaction, the General, after complimenting him upon his bravery and congratulating him upon his marvellous escape uninjured, remarked that the killing of so many Frenchmen appeared to afford him no little amount of pleasure. Regardless of the fact that he was addressing a Hanoverian General, Macpherson replied, "I wish I could have cut down in the same way every one of the traitors. If the French had kept their promises to Prince Charlie, the Highlanders would never have lost Culloden!"

On the return of the regiment from foreign service, Macpherson, as one of its heroes, was presented by General Townshend to George III. The King graciously extended his hand to the brave soldier for the usual salute. Being unversed in Court etiquette, and taking it for granted that by way of cementing their friendship His Majesty wanted a "sneeshin'," the worthy Highlander, in placing his snuff-box in the King's hand, shook the Royal palm with both hands with such ardour and emotion that the King was fain to cry out for quarter. Realising that anything but disrespect was meant, the King at once partook of a pinch from Macpherson's Badenoch mull, and was so much pleased with his chivalrous conduct and manly bearing that a handsome pension was there and then bestowed upon him.

St Columba's Churchyard was for many generations the burial-place of the chiefs of the clan. Here lie the remains of Lachlan Macpherson of Nuide, who, on the death of his cousin in 1722 became, as heir male, Macpherson of Cluny and Chief of Clan Chattan. Breaking down with grief and disappointment on hearing the tidings of the sad disaster on bleak Culloden's moor, the aged chief within a very short time afterwards "sank under the many misfortunes which then overtook the Cluny family." — By the late Alexander Macpherson, F.S.A.Scot., in "Glasgow Herald."

Register of Indentures for the Burgh of Aberdeen.

(Continued.)

1790.

June 30. David Riddell, son to William Riddell, cobler in Aberdeen, p. to George Strachan, shoemaker; 5 years from 22nd August, 1785. The apprentice to maintain himself in bed, board, and lodging during first 15 months. The father and James Farquhar, shoemaker, cautioners.

August 10. David Dun, son to Robert Dun, teacher of dancing, p. to John Imray, baker; 5 years from 16th August, 1785. Fee, £6 10s.

" 13. Peter Blaikie, son to the deceased David Blaikie, farmer in Little Dunkeld p. to John Blaikie, plumber, his brother; 7 years from 1st April, 1785. No fee. Charles Cooper, blacksmith in Aberdeen, cautioner.

September 7. William Spark, son to Andrew Spark in Overperk, p. to Alexander Davidson, flesher; 5 years after Whitsunday, 1789. No fee.

November 9. Robert Garvock, son of Jas. Garvock, laxfisher, and grandson of Alex. Davidson, burgess of guild, one of the boys in Gordon's Hospital, p. to Alexander Ferguson, taylor; 5 years from 15th December, 1785. Fee, £100 Scots.

1791.

January 12. Robert Spring, son to Robert Spring at Gilcomston, p. to William Strachan, baker; 5 years from 2nd February, 1786. Fee, £5.

,, 25. James Beverly, son to Andrew Beverley, p. to James Simpson, taylor; 7 years from 1st June, 1784. No fee. James Beverley, labourer and servant to Gordon's Mills Company, cautioner.

Francis Robertson, son of George Robertson, late merchant, one of the boys in Gordon's Hospital, p. to Lewis Wilson, taylor; 5 years from 2nd May, 1786. Fee, £100 Scots. Anne Allan, his mother, and James Gordon, goldsmith, cautioners.

February 5. Robert Caie, son to Robert Caie, brickmaker, old Aberdeen, p. to John Nicoll and Co., ironmongers; 4 years from 26th March, 1787. Fee, £13 and a bedding of cloths. The father and George Davidson, wright, Gordon's Mills, cautioners.

,, 16. James Birse, son to William Birse, in Heughhead of Kincardine O'Neil, p. to Alex. Jopp, cooper; 5 years from 15th December, 1786. Fee, £9. William Birse in Heughhead, his brother, and Magnus Martin, flesher in Aberdeen, cautioners.

,, 19. William Allan, son to Alex. Allan, at brickkilns in the Links, p. to Alex. Ross yost, merchant; 4 years from 27th February, 1787. No fee. The father to maintain for first 3 years.

March 13. William Still, younger son to Alexander Still in Strathry, parish of Kinellar, p. to William Still, cooper; 5 years from 1st January, 1787. No fee. The father and Patrick Booth, merchant, cautioners.

,, 17. Alexander Mathieson, son to William Mathieson, wool-comber, p. to George Adam, shoemaker; 5 years from 15th May, 1786. Fee, £2 10s.

May 21. William Cruickshank, son to George Cruickshank residenter, p. to John Wallace, shoemaker; 5 years from 5th June, 1786. Fee, £1. The father and John Murray, farmer in Ardo, cautioners.

July 25. George Clark, son to William Clark in Tofthills, parish of Kintore, p. to James Downie, shoemaker; 5 years from 21st December, 1786. Fee, £5. The father and John Duncan at Rubislaw, cautioners.

August 11. James Ronald, son to James Ronald, farmer in Beghead, p. to George Gibb, cooper; 5 years from 20th August, 1786. Fee, £12 stg. The father and Mr John Ronald, preacher of the Gospel, cautioners.

September 24. John Smith, son of the deceast John Smith, wright in Gilcomston, p. to John Lamb, wright; 5 years from 6th November, 1786. No fee. Al. Burnet, jun., merchant, cautioner.

John Tilleray, son of the deceast John Tilleray, farmer in Aberdeen, p. to John Lamb, wright; 5 years after 20th January, 1789. Fee, £8 stg. James Shand, cautioner.

James Courage, son of James Courage at Silverburn, p. to John Lamb, wright; 5 years from 12th May, 1790. Fee, £8 stg. and £1 to buy tools. James Courage, sen., cautioner.

October 12. Robert Reith, son of John Reith, taylor in Aberdeen, p. to William Dunn, merchant; 5 years from 22nd November, 1786. No fee. John Reith, cautioner.

,, 28. William Smith, son to William Smith, slater, p. to Peter Robertson, stuymaker; 7 years from 9th December, 1785. No fee. The father and John Murray, glazier, cautioners.

November 9. Alexander Laing, son to James Laing, residing in Aberdeen, p. to George Stott, weaver; 5 years from 1st December, 1786. No fee. The father and John Gilchrist, in Aberdeen, cautioners.

Alexander M. Munro.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary.

1874.

January 6. At Drumhead, Belhelvie, James Mair, A.M., for 27 years Schoolmaster at Savoch of Deer, aged 77.

January 17. At 5 Golden Square, Christina Little Kidd, wife of George Thompson, jun., of Pitmedden [and youngest daughter of Professor James Kidd, D.D., aged 67].

February 1. At 12 Randolph Crescent, Edinburgh, Alexander Morison, Esq. of Bognie, Vice-Lieutenant of Banffshire, in his 73rd year.

February 7. Suddenly at Heathcot, Margaret Stewart, wife of Adam Mitchell, Builder.

February 17. At 8 Golden Square, Arthur Simpson, aged 16, eldest son of Alexander Simpson, Advocate in Aberdeen.

February 16. At 19 Raeburn Place, Edinburgh, Frances Read, widow of James Spalding, Advocate, Aberdeen.

February 19. At Loirston House, Alexander Kilgour, M.D.

March 6. Suddenly at Forbes Street Cottage, Mary Scott, wife of the late Mr Andrew Malcolm, Parochial Schoolmaster, Cushnie, aged 68.

February 25. At Bombay, George Leslie Thomson, Lieutenant-Colonel and Commandant of Her Majesty's 26th Regiment, Bombay, N.I., son of the late Dr Thomson, Inverurie.

April 2. At 23 Adelphi, suddenly, James Edmond, Advocate, Aberdeen, aged 74.

April 16. Suddenly at 22 Leadside, Aberdeen, Margaret Emslie, relict of James Emslie, Esq. of Tullochvenus, and at same place, on same date, Anne Isabella Emslie, his third daughter.

April 25. At 25 Bon-Accord Terrace, Janet MacLellan, wife of Harvey Hall, Advocate, aged 24.

April 27. Suddenly at 10 Springbank Terrace, John Lyell, Gunmaker, in his 83rd year.

April 28. At 30 Pembridge Square, London, Anne, wife of Henry Wolrige-Gordon of Hallhead and Esslemont, Aberdeenshire.

May 17. At Castle Forbes, the Hon. Charles M. H. Forbes of Brux, in his 45th year.

May 23. At 17 High Street, Old Aberdeen, Margaret Mackie, relict of Alexander Torrie, Advocate, Aberdeen, aged 57 years.

June 23. At 141 Crown Street, Aberdeen, Eliza Lumsden Forbes, widow of Rev. James Paull, D.D., Minister of Tullynessle and Forbes [and daughter of John Forbes, West India merchant, aged 73].

June 18. At Braeside of Pitfodels, suddenly, Robert Collie, in his 84th year.

June 17. At Manar, James Gordon of Manar, aged 61.

July 9. At Ladymill Cottage, Aberdeen Alexander Flockhart, advocate, aged 58.

July 16. At the Manse, Rayne, Rev. Alexander Cushny, D.D., in the 84th year of his age and 59th year of his ministry.

July 19. At Stonehaven, Mr A. W. Kinnear, Sen., in his 66th year.

July 17. Drowned off Kelung, Formosa, in a typhoon, James Greig, aged 22, son of Alexander F. Greig, Surgeon, Fyvie.

July 31. At Killin, after an illness of a few hours, Cosmo Innes, Esq., Advocate, P.C.S.

July 28. At 3 Portland Terrace, Richmond, Surrey, Nicola, the dearly loved wife of J. L. Ross, Esq. of Arnage.

August 23. At Mayfield, Cults, James Brebner, Advocate, Aberdeen, in his 74th year.

Aug. 23. At Aberdeen, Rev. James Mackenzie, B.D., Parish Schoolmaster, Oldmeldrum.

August 25. At the Manse, Lumphanan, Rev. Chas. M'Combie, LL.D., of Tillyfour, in the 70th year of his age and the 49th of his ministry.

August 28. At Cranford, Ruthrieston, Margaret Gray, wife of David M'Hardy, Aberdeen.

August 31. At Blenheim Villas, St John's Wood, London, Alex. R. Irvine, son of the late William Irvine, Towie and Cornichaugh.

September 11. At 91 King Street, Alexander Gordon, Quill Manufacturer, aged 55.

September 8. At Heath Cottage, Charlestown, Aberlour, Dr George Gordon, R.N.

? Killed by a fall from a precipice in the Tyrol, John Sholto Douglass of Tilquhillie and Invery, aged 36.

September 26. At Manse of Daviot, Rev. Thomas Burnett, Minister of Daviot, aged 86.

October 19. At 183 King Street, John Grant Leslie, Sheriff Clerk Depute of Aberdeenshire.

November 5. Suddenly at 20 Rubislaw Terrace, Aberdeen, Mrs Sterritt Duff of Corsindae, aged 74.

November 5. At the Manse, Slains, Rev. James Rust, Minister of that parish for upwards of 34 years.

November 10. At Leghorn, Italy, Rev. James Collie, elder son of Alexander Collie of Oakbank, Aberdeen.

November 22. At Aberdeen, aged 36, Adelaide Isabella, wife of Lieutenant-Colonel A. B. Fyers, R.E., Surveyor-General of Ceylon, and youngest daughter of the late Colonel Forbes Leith of Whitehaugh.

November 17. At Inverurie, Dr P. Abel aged 51.

November 24. At the Manse, Insch, C. Gordon Robertson, Esq., Advocate, Edinburgh, late Sheriff-Substitute of Kincardineshire, aged 60.

November 17. At Brighton, Jessie Cecilia, widow of Peter Laing Gordon, Esq. of Craigmyle, Aberdeenshire.

November 20. At Carisbrook, Isle of Wight, Anne Watson, wife of the Rev. Alexander Keith, of the Free Church, Strichen, Aberdeenshire.

November 23. At Auchmacoy House, James Buchan, Esq. of Auchmacoy.

November 25. At Drumgarth, Cults, George Jamieson, jeweller, aged 55.

December 3. At 39 Albyn Place, Aberdeen, suddenly, Dr A. C. Matthew.

December 12. At Fuchsia Bank, Cults, John Duncan, Esq., Advocate in Aberdeen, aged 73.

December 8. At 36 Schoolhill, Aberdeen, Elizabeth Beauvais, daughter of the late George Moir, Esq of Raeden, in her 77th year.

December 8. At Belhelvie Lodge, Colonel Thomas Lumsden, C.B., of Belhelvie Lodge [aged 85].

December 22. At 8 Golden Square, Mrs Agnes Margaret Youngson, widow of Rev. Alexander Simpson, Minister of Strichen, in her 92nd year.

December 20. At 5 Carden Place, Eliza Wright, wife of Rev. David Milne, of Gilcomston Parish.

December 25. At 35 Albyn Place, Aberdeen, Mrs Margaret [Robertson] Gordon, widow of Rev. Maxwell Gordon, minister of the parish of Foveran [aged 71].

December 23. At 52 Carden Place, suddenly, Mary, fourth daughter of the late Rev. George Mackenzie, minister of Skene.

December 23. At Ballymoreagh, Kerry, Ireland George Leslie, Esq., youngest son of the late Rev. John Leslie, minister of Fintray.

December 31. At Ferryhill House, Helen Anna, widow of William Fisher, Esq.

December 30. At 152 West North Street suddenly, Thomas Ewen, Esq., advocate.

Queries.

575. William Ogilvie in Lumgair.—William Ogilvie in Lumgair and Katharine Strachan, his wife, had a charter of Lumgair and Bissetsland from the subject-superior in 1628 and sasine thereon in 1641. Who was Katherine Strachan? Was she sister of Elizabeth Strachan, Lady Blackhall?

M. R.-R. M'G.-G.

576. Episcopal Registers.—Some "Episcopal Registers" of Births, Deaths, and Marriages are said to be at Blairs College. In 1907 the "Fathers" in charge said this was not so. Where are they?

M. R.-R. M'G.-G.

577. Thomas Gray of Brighouse.—Can any reader oblige me with information as to the parentage of this Thomas Gray? Is he the same Thomas (second son of Patrick Gray) who was admitted a burgess of Aberdeen, January 13, 1604? In point of time he could be.

P. G.

Answers.

560. Identity of House in Marischal Street.—If "A. H. T." would examine the rate books or any Aberdeen street directory still extant of the period he mentions, he could probably identify the house. Captain Gilchrist, of the 2nd North British Militia, did not live in Marischal Street, but Captain Harry Gilchrist, of the minister of Foveran's family, or the "Gilchrist-Alexander" who inter-married with the family of Fraser of Castle Fraser may have done so.

M. R.-R. M'G.-G.

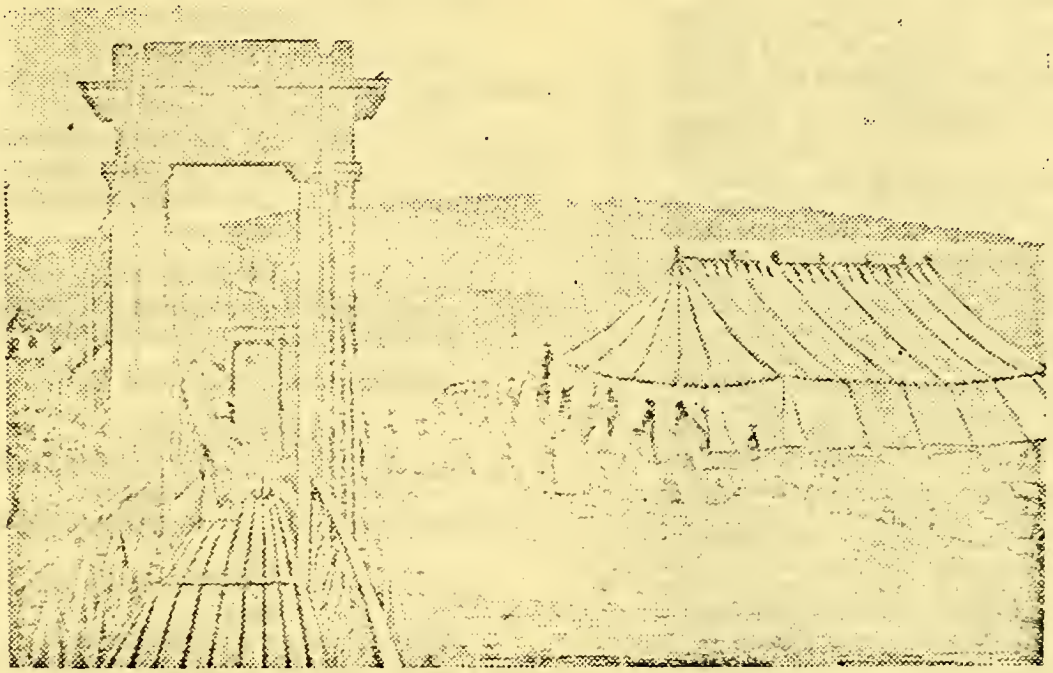
571. Blairton.—Dr James Gregory, proprietor of Blairton, died in January, 1733. Probably he is the person inquired about.

Y.

572. George Fraser, Sub-Principal, King's College, in 1684.—The remains of Mr Fraser were interred in St Nicholas Graveyard, 9th January, 1711. He was survived by his second wife, Elizabeth Cruickshank, who, on 28th July, 1714, was married to Patrick Stewart of Tombae, Inveravon. Mr Fraser's eldest daughter, Margaret, by his first marriage with Ann Menzies, was married, 12th August, 1705, to George Gordon, Professor of Hebrew in King's Colleges. (See Oldmachar Marriage Registers and St Nicholas Kirkwork Accounts.)

H.

No. 134.—November 11, 1910.



St Devenick Bridge, Cults, or "The Shakkin' Brig."

The above is a reproduction of St Devenick Bridge, Cults, as sketched and drawn on stone by Miss Eliza Mearns, daughter of the Rev. Duncan Mearns, D.D., Professor of Divinity in King's College, and relative of the Rev. George Morison, D.D., Minister of Banchory-Devenick, the donor of the structure. The drawing was made on 21st October, 1840, on the occasion of an entertainment at the bridge to Dr Morison "by his Parishioners and Friends," and it is of special interest as showing the changes which have taken place at Cults during the last seventy years. The small building in the hollow is the old meal mill of Pitfodels (reconstructed and now bearing the title Primrose House), while the small houses, with ricks adjoining, on the higher ground formed the croft of Mill of Pitfodels, as tenanted by Mr George Craig. The wood of Morkeu is seen on the heights, without the intervening railway line or a single house, where now there are dozens.

Dr Morison, who was inducted at Banchory-Devenick from the parish of Oyne in 1785, early realised the difficulties experienced by his parishioners on the north side of the Dee in getting to church. The only method was by a parish boat, the plying of which during floods and the passing of ice was really dangerous. Succeeding to the estates of Elsick and Disblair, and having no family to provide for, he determined to erect a bridge. Plans having been prepared by Mr John Smith, architect, Aberdeen, and the contracts satisfactorily settled, the foundation stone was laid, with Masonic honours, on Saturday, 27th August, 1836. At the same time there was deposited a vial containing a copy of the "Aberdeen Journal," "Aberdeen Almanac," a few coins, also a parchment with an inscription containing the names of the founder, the kirk-session, and the contractors. The bridge was completed during the following year, a tablet being built into the east side of one of the southern piers, on which is the following inscription:—

MDCCCXXXVII.
SAINT DEVENICK BRIDGE,
ERECTED BY GEORGE MORISON, D.D., OF ELSICK,
FOR THE ACCOMMODATION OF THIS PARISH, OF
WHICH HE HAS NOW BEEN LII. YEARS PASTOR.
JOHN SMITH, ARCHITECT; J. DUFTUS AND CO.,
G. DONALDSON AND G. BARCLAY, CONTRACTORS.

Miss Barclay, Ardgowan, Cults, daughter of the last-named, remembers the opening of the structure, and it is through her that we are enabled to give the above illustration.

In 1844 the parishioners presented Dr Morison with a massive silver salver, bearing the following inscription:—

FROM
THE PARISHIONERS OF BANCHORY DEVENICK
IN TESTIMONY OF THEIR REGARD FOR
THE REVD. GEORGE MORISON, D.D.
[ARMS WITH MOTTO, "PRETIO PRUDENTIA PRAESTAT"]
WHO FOR FIFTY-EIGHT YEARS
HAS FAITHFULLY AND ZEALOUSLY DISCHARGED
HIS DUTIES AS THEIR PASTOR,
AND WHOSE UNIFORM AND LIBERAL EXERTIONS
IN THE SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS AND OF THE POOR
THEY DESIRE GRATEFULLY TO COMMEMORATE.
1844.

By his Deed of Settlement Dr Morison bequeathed the salver to the kirk-session, along with a duplicate, on which is inscribed:—

THIS AND THE ACCOMPANYING
SALVER
FOR HOLDING THE
SACRAMENTAL BREAD AT THE COMMUNION
WERE BEQUEATHED TO
THE KIRK-SESSION OF BANCHORY-DEVENICK
BY
THE REVD. GEORGE MORISON, D.D.,
WHO
WAS MINISTER OF THAT PARISH
THROUGHOUT THE LONG PERIOD OF 60 YEARS,
AND WHO DIED FATHER OF THE
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND,
ON THE 13th JULY, 1845,
IN HIS 88th YEAR.

Dr Morison also bequeathed to the kirk-session, "for the accommodation of the parish," the bridge itself, and he generously left a sum to uphold it in time coming.

The Care of Public Records.

There can be no doubt that there is an increasing interest being taken in the public records of the country, and especially in those that relate to the local history of our counties, towns, and villages. As the result of this, many half-forgotten and wholly-neglected documents have been brought to light, and with the realisation of their historical value there has come a demand for their repair, and better housing and classification.

Most custodians of old records are willing enough to have the documents in their care kept in proper order, but few know what it is wise to do, or how to set about getting the work done.

It is with a view to giving some information on these points that I have been asked to write this article.

There are some simple rules that those in charge of old records will do well to bear in mind. In the first place, nothing should be destroyed without expert advice. Every existing fragment of any document, however perished it may be, can be saved and made available for reference. It is important to call attention to this because very many valuable records have been needlessly destroyed, because they were thought to be beyond repair.

Another point of importance is that any badly-decayed document should be repaired before and not after it is read. If paper or vellum has grown soft and rotten from damp, every time it is handled fragments will become detached, and so valuable information may be lost for ever.

Another rule is that all blank pages should be preserved and bound up. This at first sight does not seem to be of importance, but anyone who has worked on old records will know how aggravating it is to come to a place where a page has been torn out. Of course the page might have been blank, but, on the other hand, it might have contained important information that perhaps qualified or added to that which comes before or after it. So all blanks should be preserved as evidence that they are blanks.

The same principle applies to documents written on one side only. The back should be available for examination, even if it has nothing written on it. There are often important endorsements on the back of a document, and if the back is hidden there will always be doubt as to whether it is blank or not.

Another matter of importance is that where possible the original appearance of the books, etc., should be preserved. Certainly the old loose vellum covers and end papers should be kept, or at anyrate not destroyed without expert advice. On such covers and end papers there are often notes of great value that help to decide such points as the date or origin of the book: points of the utmost importance to the investigator.

It is a little difficult to describe in general terms what should be done to old documents, as each case must be treated on its merits. Almost any document on vellum can be flattened and cleaned. This is not a difficult process, although it needs care and some experience. Cockled vellum, if gently damped by laying it between slightly damped cloths for some hours, will become quite limp, and it can then be pulled out flat, and pressed between dry blotting paper. If allowed to dry under a weight, it will remain flat. Dust can be removed by soft indiarubber, gently applied from the centre to the margin, and never the other way. Where vellum has perished, it may be strengthened by covering both sides with thin Japanese paper that is transparent. This must be attached with special paste made from starch or cornflour, as flour paste is likely to obscure the writing.

Very little can be done to clean vellum that has become stained; indeed, it would be unwise to try to clean any written document with chemicals, as anything that would remove the stain would almost certainly remove the writing as well.

Documents on paper that has perished can

be made strong by covering them with the thin Japanese transparent paper in the same way as suggested for vellum, but, unlike vellum, paper can be sized after mending, and the old and new practically incorporated in one substance by this means.

Paper size is a weak solution of gelatine in water, and is used hot. It merely replaces the size that was originally in the paper, and for want of which the paper has become soft and "blotting-papery." Considerable skill is needed to handle a tender leaf in the size bath, but with care there is but little danger in the process.

Most old paper documents, even if they are not so far gone as to need strengthening with Japanese paper, are better for being sized, as sizing adds immensely to the strength and life.

After repair, all odd documents of small size are best bound up in a volume. Loose slips are in great danger of being lost or misplaced. The binding should be strong, but need not aim at being in any way ornamental. For instance, a simple or even a rough leather binding that is strong and opens well is better and more suitable for an old book than a smug and commonplace cover such as those associated with school prizes.

Many documents of lesser interest can quite well be cheaply bound in good cloth, the important thing being that, if leather is used, it should be good leather, and, if cloth is used, care should be taken to select a material that will last. Good cloth is a far better binding material than poor leather.

For large documents, such as maps or charters, cases should be made. The best are those that are large enough to take the documents flat. Some time ago I arranged a large tin box with trays to take the charters of one of the City companies. Each charter is laid flat on a tray, the trays fitting over one another in a box.

If there is not room for so large a box, the documents may be rolled and placed in round tin boxes. This certainly saves room, and the boxes are easily portable, but unless great care is taken, documents are apt to be damaged when being placed in the boxes. All boxes should be ventilated. Shutting vellum up in an air-tight box on a damp day is apt to encourage the growth of mould that may do serious damage. Where there are large collections of records, there is generally some sort of a muniment room provided, and it is generally somebody's business to look after the records, and to keep a catalogue of their contents. These catalogues are generally of a very rudimentary nature, and as the value of old records becomes more and more understood, it is hoped that proper calendars will be made everywhere instead of only here and there as at present. But while most of our county and town councils have done something at least to house such records as are in their care, there remain the many interesting and valuable parish records, many of which are in a sadly-neglected state.

Baptismal registers in particular have at the present time great importance, as evidence of age in connection with the Old Age Pensions Act. The activity of Footpath and Commons Preservation Societies has shown the value of inclosure awards and tithe maps as evidence of public rights. Churchwardens' books and accounts are often of very great interest, as evidence of old local customs and in showing the date and nature of repairs to the church and parish buildings. These important documents are sometimes neglected as being of lesser interest than the church registers, while really in many ways their historical value is often greater. . . .

Although by law parish records are ordered to be kept in the parish chest, in too many cases old registers are taken by the incumbent to his own house. This is generally done with a view to their better security, but the habit has been responsible for the loss of many registers from fire, or from their being mislaid after the death or removal of the incumbent. It cannot be too strongly urged that the parish chest is nearly always the most secure place for parish records. Where there is no proper chest, one should be provided, and where the vestry is damp, the records should be protected by an inner tin box. Registers and other documents that are out of repair should be attended to. In most parishes there is someone interested enough in the local history to bear the small expense involved.

It is just this increasing interest in these old documents that makes their repair of such vital importance at the present time. Mere neglect is bad, but much handling of documents in bad condition is ten times worse.

The Local Government Act of 1894 gave the custody of non-ecclesiastical parish documents into the hands of Parish Councils. Where these powers have been acted on it is to be feared that the change has not made for the greater security of the documents. Clerks to Parish Councils have not, as a rule, any secure place suitable for the custody of records, and tithe maps, inclosure awards, etc., may often be found lying in the corner of the clerk's office, where they run great risk from fire or damp, or perhaps greater risk of being mislaid or lost when a change of clerk occurs. Yet it is on the evidence of these documents that many legal questions have to be determined, and it is of the utmost importance to the parish that they should be in safe custody. Generally it is wise to deposit them in a bank.

If copies are made of them, the originals need not be disturbed very often.

Certain public bodies or individuals are given the custody of public records. Surely it is not unreasonable to consider that the responsibility for the custody of such records includes the responsibility for keeping them safely and in good order. Losses that have already occurred cannot be helped now, but future losses can be avoided by prompt and skilful treatment, and every fragment of every public record that now exists can be preserved, and if through neglect future losses occur, then someone will have neglected his duty.

DOUGLAS COCKERELL.

—"The Local Government Review" for April.

T

Register of Indentures for the Burgh of Aberdeen.

(Continued.)

1791.

November 23. James Petrie, son of the deceast George Petrie, sheriff officer in Old Aberdeen, p. to James Ramsay, taylor; 6 years from 15th December, 1785. Fee, £1 for a bedding of cloaths. William Williamson, gardener in Old Aberdeen, and James Brice, baker, cautioners.

,, 30. William Keith, son of John Keith in the parish of Peter Culter, p. to John Hector, taylor; 5 years from 1st March, 1787. Fee, £5 stg. The father and Al. Buchan, stocking frame smith, cautioners.

December 20. Peter Riach, son to Harry Riach in Minmore, parish of Cushnie, p. to John Wallace, baker; 5 years from 5th January, 1787. Fee, £5 stg. The father and Alexander Duncan, merchant, cautioners.

1792.

February 13. William Ronald, son of William Ronald, farmer in Boghead of Auchindore, p. to Alexander Thomson, cooper; 5 years from 20th March, 1787. Fee, £10.

March 1. William Milne, son of George Milne, shoemaker, one of the boys in Robert Gordon's Hospital, p. to Alexander Jopp, cooper; 5 years from 6th October, 1787. Fee, £100 Scots.

Alexander Ross, son of Finlay Ross, residing in Aberdeen, p. to Peter Duncan, weaver; 5 years from 8th June, 1787. No fee. The father and Hugh Ross, senior, cautioners.

,, 13. Theophilus Legget, son to —— Legget in Greinhall, p. to John Low, taylor; 7 years from 24th May, 1787. No fee. Theophilus Ogilvie, Esq. of Greinhall, cautioner.

April 6. George Fleeming, son of James Fleeming, mason in Aberdeen, p. to Garvock and White, staymakers; 7 years from 7th April, 1785. The father and James Thomson, writer, cautioners.

May 30. George Barclay, son to John Barclay, farmer in Echt, p. to William Barclay, shoemaker; 6 years from 1st June, 1787. The father cautioner.

June 4. Donaldson Riddel, son of John Riddel at Windmill brae, p. to George Beet, blacksmith; 5 years from Martinmas, 1789. The father cautioner.

,, 18. James Ligertwood, son of George Ligertwood in Balmakessie, p. to James Finnie, wright; 4 years from 20th June, 1788. Fee, £12 10s. Father cautioner.

July 5. James Booth, son of John Booth, blacksmith in Aberdeen, p. to Alexander Booth, merchant; 5 years from 7th September, 1787. The master to pay £5 for the last year of apprenticeship.

,, 7. Andrew Donald, son of James Donald in Mill of Dalpersie, p. to James Christie, sadler; 6 years from 9th April, 1789. Fee, £5 10s. The father and Ar. Milner, merchant, cautioners.

George Robertson, son of George Robertson, burgess, one of the boys of Robert Gordon's Hospital, p. to William Farquharson, sadler; 5 years from 22nd August, 1787. Fee, £100 Scots. James Gordon, jeweller, and the apprentice's mother, Ann Allan, cautioners.

John Ogilvie, son of Alexander Ogilvie, merchant, Loanhead, p. to James Christie, sadler; 6½ years from 21st February, 1786. No fee. The father and John Leslie at Steps of Gilcomston cautioners.

William Clark, son of deceast George Clark, taylor, p. to William and James Christies, sadlers; 6½ years from 7th July, 1790. Fee, £100 Scots. Al. Ainslie, shoemaker, Oldburn, cautioner.

July 30. Thomas Gordon, son of James Gordon, labourer in Gilcomston, p. to James Robson, merchant; 5 years from 1st August, 1787. The father, Thomas Gordon, labourer in Aberdeen, Alexander Gordon, turner in Gilcomston, and Alexander Robertson, labourer, cautioners.

James Forbes, son to George Forbes, taylor burgess, p. to James Clerk, taylor, present Facter to Miln's Mortification, belonging to the Taylor trade; 5 years from Martinmas, 1787. Fee, £2 10s. to be paid out of said mortification. Charles Mackie, taylor, cautioner.

William Crives, son to the deceased William Crives at Silverburn, p. to William Michie, wright; 5 years from 1st Jany. 1791. Fee, £7 with a bed and bedding of cloaths. Alexander Gill at Foulpool. Thomas Gordon, mason, and Andrew Lawson, blacksmith in Old Aberdeen, cautioners.

John Ogilvie, son to Reverend Dr John Ogilvie at Midmar, p. to William Michie, wright; 5 years from 1st April, 1792. Fee, £8 stg. The father cautioner.

Alex. M. Munro.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1875.

January 12. At 8 Alford Place, Aberdeen, Margaret M. Yeats, relict of Dr Alexander M'Donald, R.A.

January 12. At 3 Ferryhill Place, George M'Pherson of Springhill, Brush Manufacturer, in his 38th year.

January 2. At 3 North Manor Place, Edinburgh, George Skene, Esq. of Rubislaw, in his 86th year.

January 16. At Aberdeen, James Russell, Esq. of Aden, aged 77.

January 15. At 3 Union Place, Miss Gordon of Avochie, aged 78.

January 11. At Longside, Catherine Memess, relict of the Rev. John Imray, Minister of Longside, aged 96.

January 11. At 20 Alfred Place, Brompton, London, S.W., in his 88th year, Anthony Andrew Leslie, Esq., the last surviving son of the late John Leslie of Balquhain, who died in 1828.

January 21. At 27 Albyn Place, George Marquis, C.A., aged 73.

January 17. At the Manse, Gamrie, the Rev. James Cruden, M.A., in his 68th year.

February 2. At Aberdeen, Agnes Laing, aged 71, wife of Mr George Mortimer, A.M., late Schoolmaster, Midmar.

February 9. At Carlethen, near Edinburgh, Benjamin Reid, late Nurseryman, of 31 Albyn Place, Aberdeen, aged 84.

February 5. At 4 Caroline Place, Sarah Irvine, widow of the Rev. James Stirling, aged 62.

February 12. At Aberdeen, John R. Trail, M.D., of Tomboy, Monymusk.

February 16. At Cannes, Helen Eythan, wife of Alexander Innes, younger of Raemoir, Kincardineshire.

February 27. At 21 Raeburn Place, Keturah Gerard, widow of the Rev. James Simmie, D.D., Minister of Rothiemay, aged 99 years on the 18th January.

March 2. At Aucholzie, William Gordon, sen., aged 87.

March 7. At Leamington, Warwickshire, William A. Skene, Esq. of Lethenty, J.P. and D.L. for Aberdeenshire, aged 74.

March 22. At 142 King Street, Aberdeen, Samuel Davidson, M.D., aged 33.

March 19. At Manse of Huntly, Rev. John Cushny, Minister of the Parish, aged 48.

March 29. At 26 Albyn Place, Major James Craigie, H.E.I.C.S.

April 10. At Whitehaugh House, Mary, wife of James Forbes Leith, Esq. of Whitehaugh.

April 4. At the Schoolhouse, Leochel-Cushie, Ellen Gray, wife of Rev. William M'Robert, aged 49.

April 18. At Kingcausie, Margaret Christie, widow of John Irvine Boswell of Balmuto and Kingcausie, aged 86.

April 22. At Mugiemoss House, George Davidson, Esq., Paper Manufacturer.

April 29. At 99 Crown Street, Aberdeen, Surgeon-Major Thomas Smith, M.D.

May 1. At Queen's Cross, Miss Sophia Ann Grant, last surviving daughter of the late Robert Grant, Esq. of Drumminor, aged 75.

May 14. At Kirkville, Thomas Shepherd of Kirkville, Captain, late H.E.I.C.S., aged 75.

May 12. At Whitehaugh House, James Forbes Leith, Esq. of Whitehaugh.

May 17. At Kingsford House, Alford, Jessie Lyall, wife of D. R. Lyall Grant of Kingsford.

May 23. At the F.C. Manse, Glenbervie, Rev. James Cameron, in his 38th year.

June 14. At 13 Victoria Street, Aberdeen, Alexander Rhind Dyer, Shipowner, aged 64.

June 16. At Nether Towie, John Fyfe, for 48 years Parochial Schoolmaster of Towie, aged 74.

June 25. At Craigshaw, Nigg, Katherine, eldest daughter of the deceased Robert Davidson of Balnagask, in her 92nd year.

July 9. At 3 Golden Square, Rev. John Peden Bell, Minister of the United Presbyterian Church, Midmar.

July 15. At the Manse, Udny, Rev. John Leslie, Minister of the Parish.

July 31. At 46 Skene Terrace, Aberdeen, Catherine Thomson, last surviving daughter of the late Alexander Leith, Esq., of Freefield and Glenkindie, in her 81st year.

August 8. At F.C. Manse, Huntly, Forbes Shepherd, wife of Rev. William Burnet.

August 23. At Strachan Manse, John M'Lean, aged 88.

September 2. At the Schoolhouse, Ballater, Rev. James Smith, aged 88.

September 9. At Drum Castle, Alexander Charles Quentin, aged 23, eldest surviving son of Alexander Forbes Irvine of Drum.

September 16. At 41 Belmont Street, Agnes Melvin, sister of the late Dr James Melvin, Rector of the Grammar School, and relict of John Dun, one of the Teachers in that School, aged 72.

September 24. At Woodbank, near Aberdeen, Angus Fraser, formerly merchant in Aberdeen, aged 68; and at the same place, on 23rd inst., his younger son, David Carte-Fraser, Advocate in Aberdeen, aged 34.

October 17. At 34 Bon-Accord Terrace, Rev. James Lumsden, D.D. Principal and Professor of the Free Church College, Aberdeen, aged 64.

October 14. At Balmedie House, William James Lumsden of Balmedie, aged 81.

October 16. At Manse of Tarland, Jane Ross, wife of Rev. William Skinner, aged 36.

October 16. At 13 Merchant Street, Peterhead, Keith Forbes, Solicitor, in his 72nd year.

October 31. At 12 Carden Place, Mr James Wyllie, Bookseller.

October 31. At Aberdeen, Margaret Lumsden, wife of Rev. William Fergusson, Free Church, Ellon.

November 5. At 20 Golden Square, David Wyllie, late Banker, aged 68.

November 10. At 12 Rose Street, Aberdeen, John Cruickshank, LL.D., formerly Professor of Mathematics in Marischal College and University of Aberdeen, in his 89th year.

November 16. At Peterhead, James Lyall, M.A., for 34 years Parish Schoolmaster, aged 60.

November 20. At the Belle-vue Hotel, Dresden Alexander Pirie, Seaton House, in his 64th year.

November 26. At Brucklay Castle, William Dingwall Fordyce, Esq. of Brucklay, M.P.

November 29. At 21 Bon-Accord Terrace, Rev. William Corbet, A.M., aged 42.

December 7. At Keith-hall Manse, Isabella Christina MacKichan, wife of Rev. James Donald, aged 32.

December 14. At Old Aberdeen, Helen Scott, beloved wife of Rev. Samuel Trail, D.D., Professor of Systematic Theology in the University of Aberdeen. . . . .

December 12. At 56 Dee Street, Anne Lyell, wife of George Grub, advocate.

December 24. At 18 Carden Place, Sabina, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Alexander Farquhar, Minister of Old Pitsligo [aged 52].

December 26. At the Manse, New Deer, Rev. John Wallace, Minister of the Parish, in his 41st year.

December 25. At 74 Upper Stanhope Street, Liverpool, Rev. Charles N. B. Melville, Minister of the Parish of Maryculter, Kincardineshire, in his 40th year.

December 31. At 27 Bon-Accord Terrace, Eliza Jane Williamson Alexander, wife of Robert Duthie, shipowner.

December 23. At Cannes, France, Alexander, only child of William Russel, Esq. of Kininmonth, Aberdeenshire, aged 20.

Queries.

572. Ferryhill Lands.—Can any reader oblige me with a note of the probable extent of the lands of Ferryhill as belonging early in the last century to Alexander Tower of Logie?

D. R.

573. Mr Felix M'Carthy, Mathematician.—Who was "Mr Felix M'Carthy, Aberdeen," who in 1773-74 was a contributor to Charles Hutton's "Mathematical Miscellany"?

P. J. Anderson.

University Library, Aberdeen.

580. Inchbobart.—In Kirkmichael Churchyard a stone is inscribed—"Sacred to the memory of John Gordon, late farmer, Inchbobart, Glenmuick, afterwards of Ruthven, where he died, October 22, 1855, aged 55." He came to grief financially in Ruthven, and his widow emigrated to New Zealand, where she had a son James. She also had three daughters. Can any of the mountaineering writers tell me whether Inchbobart is the same as the well-known Inschnabobart, near the ford of the same name on the Muick, on the way to Lochnagar?

J. M. Bulloch.

581. Rev. John Gourlay, Cortachy and Clova.—Can any reader furnish the date of the death of Rev. John Gourlay, minister of the united parishes of Cortachy and Clova? It was between 1820 and 1828.

G. Y.

Answers.

561. Colonel Forbes, of the 45th Regiment.—Colonel Thomas Forbes was a younger brother of the first Sir Charles Stewart Forbes of Newe (vide "'Aberdeen Journal' Notes and Queries," Vol. I. pp. 2 and 6).

C. M.

566. Dr Francis Adams, Banchory. — The following is the inscription on the granite obelisk at Bellfield, as composed by Professor (afterwards Principal Sir William Duguid) Geddes—

IN MEMORIAM.
FRANCISCI ADAMS, M.D., LL.D.,
MEDICORUM
OMNIUM QUOTQUOT SCOTIA TULIT,
LITERARUM THESAURIS
NECNON SCIENTIARUM OPIBUS,
ERUDITISSIMI,
DUI IN HAC VALLE REDUCTA,
AB AULA ET ACADEMIA PROCUL,
MEDICINÆ SIMUL ET MUSIS,
VIR VERE APOLLINARIS,
FIDELITER INSERVIIT.
NATUS LUMPHANANI, III. ID. MART., MDCCXCVI
MORTUUS BANCHORIÆ, IV. KAL. MART,
MDCCCLXI.
CARISSIMI CAPITIS DESIDERIO
AMICI POSUERE.

[In memory of Francis Adams, M.D., LL.D., who surpassed all the physicians that Scotland has produced in the extent of his literary and scientific attainments.

In this secluded valley, far from Hall and University, a true votary of Apollo, he long and faithfully served at once medicine and the muses.

He was born at Lumphanan, 13th March, 1796, and died at Banchory, 26th February, 1861.

This monument was erected by his friends in token of their regret for the loss of one whom they held very dear.]

M.

573. Menzies Family of Pitfodels.—Down to about 1715 the members of the family of Menzies of Pitfodels were interred in "Menzies' Isle" (can anybody describe it?) of the Church of St Nicholas, for some time thereafter in St Nicholas Churchyard, and more recently in the Snow Churchyard, Old Aberdeen.

H.

No. 135.—November 18, 1910.

Buchan.

This notable volume,* which has been edited and arranged with excellent skill by Mr J. F. Tocher, Peterhead, provides almost an embarrassment of riches. Though Mr Tocher modestly hides much of his own work under the editorial "we," he has written three of the four chapters in "Ancient Buchan," as well as a chapter on mediæval Buchan. His work as editor also cannot have been light. The material has been arranged in six sections. It gives an outline of the evolution of Buchan from primeval times to the present day. The first section considers the natural history of Buchan; the second and third its prehistoric condition and ancient history; the fourth its history in mediæval and in Stuart times; the fifth, its burghal contents; and the last section considers modern conditions. There are many good illustrations, and a useful map of Buchan.

The general outward aspect of Buchan, with its solitary hill of Mormond standing as sentry, and its familiar coast line—the curvature of which, as Mr Tocher points out, resembles a printer's mark of interrogation, with Aberdeen detached enough to be the terminal dot—is merely a passing phase in the history of a portion of the earth's surface. Dr Gibb, of Aberdeen University, writes on the geological history of Buchan. Discussing certain theories about the chalk deposits, which have attracted a good deal of attention, Dr Gibb quotes the opinion of Dr Thomas Jamieson, of Ellon, who has a wide knowledge of the geology of the north of Scotland. Dr Jamieson believes that these strange beds have been transported by moving ice, and are not native to the district, Dr Gibb, however, says that there is evidence for the other view. Dr Jamieson gives a very good account of the geology of the surface.

Professor J. Arthur Thomson tells us, with characteristic charm of style, of the fauna of Buchan. Little has been done, he says, in a systematic way to identify and to tabulate animal life in the district. Nothing could be better than Professor Thomson's description of the Ice Ages as the ages of horror. His colleague, Professor Trail, points out that very much must be done before the distribution of even the flowering plants and fern allies in Buchan can be said to be well investigated. Professor Trail has himself written valuable papers on the flora of Buchan.

Mr J. W. Tocher, whose subject is prehistoric Buchan, believes that the evidence as a whole tends to point to the fact that Buchan has been inhabited for at least four thousand years. Professor Reid, of Marischal College, tells us something of "short cist" men in Aberdeenshire many centuries ago. "Short stone cists" is the scientific term for rude stone coffins. Some anthropologists consider, Professor Reid says, that short cist man in Aberdeenshire was derived from a people who inhabited the shores of the Mediterranean, and who changed their physical type as a result of environment. Sir Norman Lockyer supplies some notes on the Stone Circles of Aberdeenshire. His opinion is that these circles were primitive clocks, by means of which the observer could make an almanac of seasons. There are sermons in these stones.

The editor puts the result of much reading and research into his chapters on the earliest written history of Buchan. In the "Book of Deer," Buchan is mentioned for the first time in history. The "Book of Deer" Mr Tocher describes as "that intensely interesting, fragmentary, but true, and, as far as we know, only history existing of ancient Buchan." This volume was found in 1860 by Mr Henry Bradshaw, librarian of Cambridge University, in the library of that University, where it had lain since 1715. Its interest and value are in the numerous entries in vernacular Gaelic—entries about the gifts and and immunities granted by the Mormaers of Buchan and Moray to Columcille and Drostan, the earliest missionaries of Buchan. Dr John Milne writes on Gaelic place names. Mr James Ferguson of Kinmundy, Sheriff of Forfarshire, reviews the chief families of Buchan—the Comyns, Keiths, Hays, Frasers, Forbeses, Gordons, Fergusons, and Arbuthnots. These families are intimately associated with the Castles of Buchan, an interesting chapter on which is given by Mr Robert Anderson, who also contributes an exhaustive chapter upon Fraserburgh: Its Foundation and History. Mr J. M. Bulloch has a subject after his heart in the "Rabbling of Deer."

More important is a review by Dr Middleton, Peterhead, of the literary figures of the north-east from John Barbour to Dr John Arbuthnot, Queen Anne's physician. This is a delightful chapter on men of letters. Though Arbuthnot was born in Kincardineshire, he has many associations with Buchan. He graduated M.A. at Marischal College in 1685. Arbuthnot was the friend of Swift and Pope and other brilliant writers. Dr Middleton has a chapter also on later writers. Dr Thomas Reid, who is so closely associated with the Scottish school of philosophy, was minister of Newmachar before he came to Aberdeen University, and from there went to Glasgow to fill the chair of Adam Smith. Reid, Dr Gregory, his cousin, and Beattie, of "The Minstrel," were members of the Philosophical Club, or the "Wise Club," in Aberdeen. Other literary men who deserve notice are John Skinner of Linshart, the author of "Tullochgorum"; John Burnett Pratt, the author of the excellent "Buchan"; and William Alexander, who wrote the classical "Johnny Gibb." Sir Leslie Stephen, the first editor of the extraordinarily valuable Dictionary of National Biography, gives an account in his life of his brother, Sir James Fitzjames Stephen, of the Aberdeenshire origin of the Stephen family, who came from the parish of Cruden.

* "The Book of Buchan." Edited and arranged by J. F. Tocher, B.Sc. Peterhead: The Buchan Club.

Mr Gavin Greig writes well, with knowledge and sympathy, of the traditional songs and ballads of Buchan. Life in the northern burghs before the Reformation is brightly and skilfully treated by Dr Giles, of Cambridge, a distinguished graduate of Aberdeen. The editor introduces valuable new matter in his record of the early history of Peterhead. A good account of modern Ellon is given by Mr A. J. Raeburn, the town clerk of Ellon. Mr P. J. Anderson, the Aberdeen University Librarian, tells concisely the story of the University of Fraserburgh. Modern Buchan is in the very competent hands of the editor. Many famous men have visited Peterhead. Mr J. T. Findlay has written about them very agreeably. Among them are the Old Chevalier, Wolfe, Burns, Prince Napoleon, and Renan. That great Frenchman of letters came with the Prince from Peterhead to Aberdeen.

Two Sons of Professor Macgillivray.

I observed in the "Aberdeen Journal" recently a review of the life of the celebrated William Macgillivray, Professor of Natural History in Marischal College. Perhaps it may interest readers to learn that two of his sons, both distinguished men, lie buried in Australian ground. Of the younger of these, Paul Howard Macgillivray, whom I occasionally saw, I give a brief memoir. He was born in Aberdeen in 1834, and educated at Marischal College, where he took the degree of M.A. in 1851. His father died the following year, and he had to take to the medical profession for a livelihood, as he had been intended for a scientific career. He published the "Flora of Aberdeen" in 1853. He was enrolled a member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1855, and embarked for Melbourne the same year. He settled first in Williamstown, a shipping port of Hobson's Bay, but removed to an inland mining township, Sandhurst, which has been renamed Bendigo. He was appointed in 1857 surgeon-superintendent of the hospital there, and retained the position till his death on 9th July, 1895, aged 61. He was a clever surgeon and careful physician, being, on account of his scientific attainments, considered the most learned practitioner in the colony of Victoria. He was the first medical man in Australia to establish the fact that the so-called colonial fever was true typhoid. He also wrote on cancer and hydatid diseases, and in 1874 was president of the Royal Society of Victoria. At a conversazione held in their hall, he exhibited drawings of British birds by his father. I saw them in the hall; they were beautifully tinted, true to life, and all branded "W. Macgillivray." The doctor assisted Sir Frederick M'Coy in his "Prodromus of the Zoology of Victoria," and many pages of his manuscript I have set up while working as a compositor in the Government Printing Office. His magnum opus was "The Polyzoa of Victoria," which was published by the Royal Society of Victoria. He named 100 varieties of zoophytes. He also wrote a work on the fossil polyzoa of South Australia. He was a Fellow of the Linnæan Societies of London and Paris, and his Alma Mater (Aberdeen University) granted him the degree of LL.D. in 1869, an honour worthily bestowed and justly earned. His death resulted from erysipelas, which followed after a violent cold received in the discharge of his duties.

John Macgillivray, the elder brother, had a most adventurous career. Born at Aberdeen, 18th December, 1822, he spent his childhood in Edinburgh. Before he was 20 years of age he was appointed by the Earl of Derby naturalist on an exploring expedition to Torres Straits and the Eastern Archipelago. This was in 1842, and in 1846 he was again naturalist on the Rattlesnake, under Captain Owen Stanley, brother of the celebrated Dean of Westminster, and having Huxley as an assistant. Returning in 1850, he published an account of the voyage two years later. In 1852 he went on a surveying voyage to South America and the South Pacific Islands. Leaving the vessel in 1855, he remained in Sydney, New South Wales, whence he made excursions to various parts of Australasia, studying the aborigines of the country, and contributing to the Sydney press the results of his investigations. But his fine constitution had been gradually undermined through persistent neglect of the ordinary precautions of hygiene, by fatigue, hunger, and exposure to inclement weather, and the end came with startling suddenness, for he died when about to sit down at the breakfast table of the Kent Larder Hotel, Sydney, on 6th June, 1857, aged 45. An inquest was held over his remains, and the verdict returned was death from disease of the heart. Probably he was buried in the Presbyterian Cemetery, Devonshire Square; but, if so, his remains have been removed to another graveyard, for, in obedience to the brutal utilitarian spirit of the present day, all the old cemeteries of the different denominations in Sydney were ruthlessly destroyed to make an extension of the Redfern Railway Station. The tombstones, coffins, bones, etc., were all conveyed to other cemeteries—a ghoulish, yet up-to-date, proceeding. I will make inquiry should I be in Sydney again, but although I turned up the Sydney newspaper files of 1867, I could get no satisfactory information as to the last resting-place of John Macgillivray.

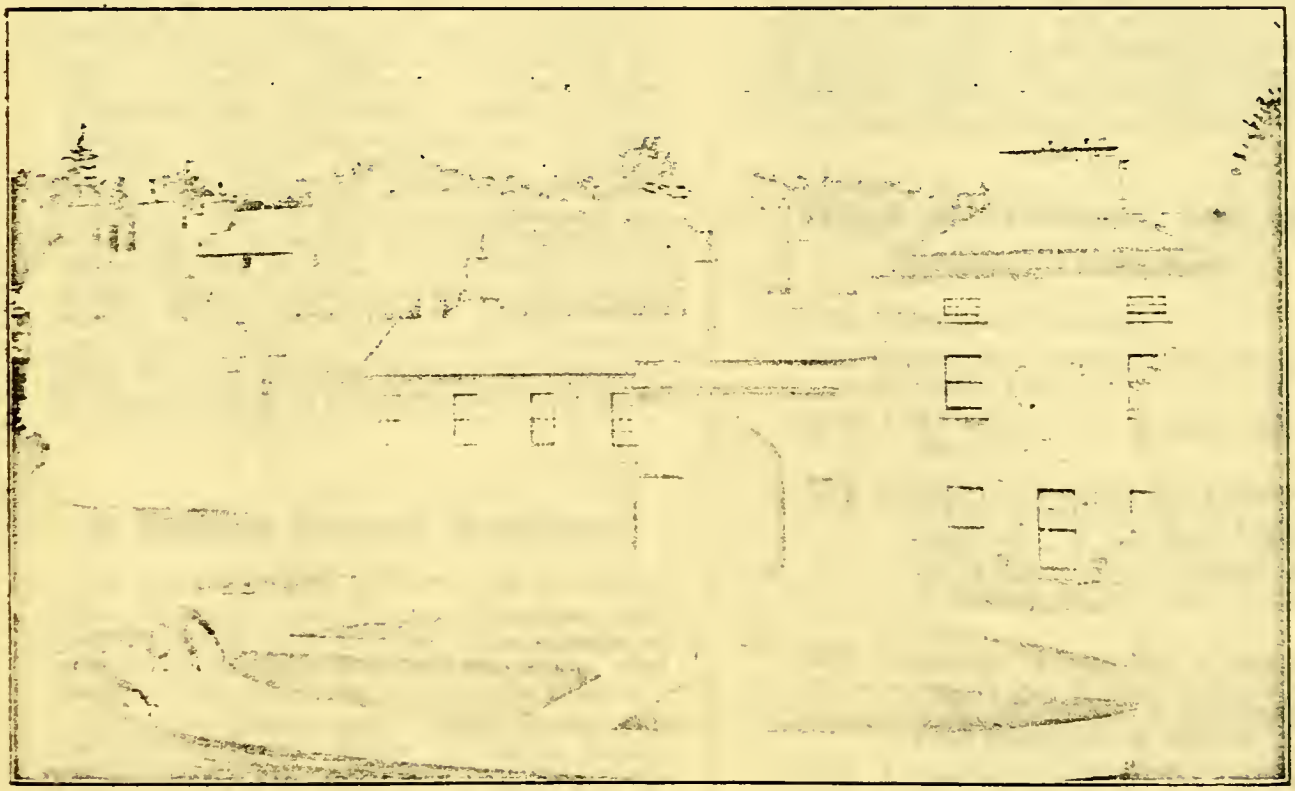
ALBA.

Melbourne, Australia.

Andrew Gordon, Physicist.

The best short life yet written on Andrew Gordon, the Benedictine monk, is that contributed by Brother Potamian, D.Sc., professor of physics in Manhattan College, New York, to the new Catholic Encyclopædia.

Gordon was born on June 15, 1712, at Cullfurach, Banffshire (not Forfarshire, as the Father states). Having travelled



Durris House.

extensively on the Continent, Gordon became a Benedictine, and in 1737 was appointed professor of natural philosophy in the University of Erfurt. He soon acquired considerable reputation by his works on electricity, among which were his "Phænomena electricitatis exposita" (1744); "Philosophia utilis et jucunda" (1745); "Physicæ experimentalis elementa" (1751-2). For the sulphur ball of von Guericke (1671) and the glass globe of Newton (some say Hauksbee) Gordon substituted a glass cylinder, which made an efficient frictional machine. Two other inventions of the Benedictine physicist are noteworthy: the first is the light metallic star supported on a sharp pivot with the pointed ends bent at right angles to the rays, commonly called the electrical whirl; the second is the beautiful device known as the electrical chimes. Though these inventions are described in all text-books of electricity, the name of Gordon is never mentioned, though both inventions are fully described by him in his "Versuch einer Erklarung der Electricitat" (Erfurt, 1745). Franklin, who is usually credited with the latter invention, simply adopted the "German chimes" (described by Watson in his famous "Sequel," 1746) to serve as an electrical annunciator in connection with his experimental (lightning) rod of 1752. The "whirl" is of special interest because it was an electrostatic reaction motor, the earliest of its kind; while the second derives its theoretical importance from its being the first instance that we have of the application of what has come to be called "electric convection."

J. M. B.

A Deeside Baronet Slandered.

To make headway in the world in former times invariably raised a host of enemies, who with impunity used influence with authors to indulge in the most unwarrantable abuse and slander. The following is a sample case:—

Alexander Fraser, son of Adam Fraser, and grandson of Thomas Fraser of Durris, having qualified as a "Doctor of Medicine," was made Court Physician in Ordinary to Charles I. in 1645, afterwards holding the same appointment to Charles II. By the latter he was created a baronet on 2nd August, 1673. He became a great favourite with the King, and was much engaged in the conduct of Court affairs. Amassing considerable wealth, he was enabled to repurchase his grandfather's estate of Durris, or Dores as it was then called. In short, his success called forth violent attacks from several influential men, two of the most prominent being Sir John Denham and Dr Pierce. The former is stated (Dictionary, National Biography) to have been actuated by "personal enmity"; while the latter is called "a groom of the Privy Chamber," who repeated "backstairs' gossip." One of his tit-bits is told by Pepys ("Diary," 19th September, 1664), but it is so manifestly a gross slander as to be unworthy of repetition.

Bishop John Geddes.

The "Aberdeen Journal" records as follows:—

Died here on 11th February, 1799, in the 65th year of his age, the Right Reverend Bishop John Geddes, after a long and severe illness of nearly six years, which he bore with the most heroic fortitude and Christian patience. His numerous friends and acquaintances will long remember his amiable qualities and attractive manners: and those in particular of his own communion have also to regret in him the loss of a worthy and zealous Pastor.

Bishop Geddes received his education in the Scotch College at Rome, returned to his native country in 1759, was deputed to Spain in 1770 to recover the funds of a College belonging to the Catholic Clergy in Scotland, which he happily accomplished, and continued to govern the College which he established at Valladolid till the year 1780, when he was nominated and consecrated Bishop, and returned to Scotland in the beginning of the year following.

Prices of Provisions, etc., Six Hundred Years Ago.

In 1199. Wheat, 1s a quarter.

1216. Barley, 2s a quarter; oats, 1s; a good horse, 10s.

1272. A fat capon, 1½d; a goose, 4d; a fat lamb, 4d.

1307. A cow, 6s; a sheep, 1s; a capon, 2d; a hog, 3s 2½d; a pig, 6d: a pair of shoes, 4d; a fat sheep, 1s 8d; a fat goose, 2½d; a flagon of ale (4 quarts), 1d; an acre of pasture, 1d.

1527. A quarter of corn, 2s; 2 hens, 1d; a hog, 1s 6d; a quarter of wheat, 2s; a fat ox, 6s 8d; a fat sheep, 6d; a fat goose, 2d; a pig, 1d.

1377. A quarter of wheat, 2s; one ox, 8s; one cow, 5s; a gallon of white wine, 6d.

1399. A quarter of wheat, 4d; barley, 2s; peas, 1d; a gallon of red wine, 4d; cow, 7s; two bushels of wheat, 10d; a dung cart, 1s 2d.

1422. A ram, 8d; 20 pullets, 1s 8d; a cow, 2s 8d. Weekly allowance of Fellows of Colleges, 1s 4d; labourers, 1d a day; a quart of wine, 3d; a bullock, 5s; a goose, 3d.

Tailors' charges in 1616 were:—

For making a suit of clothes, 4s.
For making a cloak, 1s 6d.
For making a morning gown, 1s 8d.
For making a black gown, 1s 6d.

—"The Mirror," 2nd December, 1826.

Register of Indentures for the Burgh of Aberdeen.

(Continued.)

1792.

October 13. David Mathers, son to David Mathers at Coulter, p. to David Barclay, shoemaker; 5 years from 1st November, 1787. Fee, £2 stg. Father cautioner.

,, 15. John Mitchell, son to Joseph Mitchell, vintner, p. to Alexander Leslie and Coy., druggists; 6 years from 1st August, 1787. No fee.

,, 26. George Mitchell, son of Joseph Mitchell, vintner, p. to William Littlejohn, wright; 5 years from 28th April, 1792. Fee, £15.

November 27. Alexander Smith, son to James Smith in Little Clinterty, parish of Newhills, p. to Andrew Simpson, merchant; 6 years from 1st December, 1786. No fee. Cautioners, the father and Alexander Smith, paper manufacturer in Mains of Stoneywood.

,, 28. James Lyell, son of Alexander Lyell in Loch Eye, p. to R. Johnston, blacksmith, 5 years from 8th April, 1783. No fee. Cautioners, the father and Alexander Strath in Lochhead.

December 5. John Clerk, son of Peter Clerk in Tillerneer, p. to Andrew Wilson, wright; 5 years from 14th December, 1787. Fee, £6. Cautioner, the father.

,, 10. Peter Laing, son to James Laing, residenter in Aberdeen, p. to John Milne, weaver; 6 years from 10th December, 1792. No fee. Cautioners, the father and John Gilchrist, residenter.

1793.

March 27. William Coutts, son of James Coutts, flaxdresser, p. to Peter Priest, cutler; 5 years from 22nd November, 1788. Fee, £5. Cautioners, the father and John Johnston, merchant.

,, 28. James Donald, son of James Donald, woolcomber, p. to Alexander Titler, shoemaker; 5 years from 14th April, 1783. No fee. The father cautioner.

April 27. Alexander Ross, son to Robert Ross, staymaker in Elgin, p. to Peter Robertson, staymaker; 5 years from 17th May, 1788. No fee. The father and James Davie, woolcomber in Aberdeen, cautioners.

William Dauney, son to William Dauney in Finnylost, parish of Strathdon, p. to James Dauney, shoemaker; 5 years from 19th June, 1783. Fee, £5. The father and William M'Cook in Columbarrie, parish of Strathdon, cautioners.

May 4. Robert Murray, son of Robert Murray, cowfeeder in Cloonston, p. to James Reust, wright; 5 years after Whitsunday, 1788. Fee, £4. The father cautioner.

May 10. John Fettes, son of William Fettes, salmon fisher at Bridge of Don, p. to John Wallace, baker; 5 years from 22nd May, 1788. Fee, £6. Cautioners, the father and John Hector, residenter.

June 3. David Izat, son of the deceast D. Izat, Ship Mr in Aberdeen, p. to James Gordon and Company, goldsmiths; 7 years from 13th June, 1786. No fee. Ar. Gibbon, shipbuilder in Footdee, cautioner.

David M'Kenzie, one of the boys in the Poor's Hospital, p. to David Wyllie, taylor; 6 years from 5th June, 1786. Fee, 10s yearly during apprenticeship. Daniel Cameron, chaise driver, cautioner.

September 28. John Thomson, son of the deceast James Thomson, late farmer at Forresterhill, p. to Peter Robertson, staymaker; 6 years from 1st October, 1787. Fee, £5. John Christie, chaisemaker at Skene's Square, and Duncan M'Kenzie, quarrier, cautioners.

October 5. John Troup, son to the deceast John Troup, blacksmith in the parish of Banchory, p. to George Beet, blacksmith; 5 years from 23th November, 1783. No fee. George Troup, square wright in the parish of Banchory, and William Reid, farmer in the parish of Old Machar, cautioners.

ALEXANDER M. MUNRO.

Genealogy.

Mr Horace Walpole, writing to the Rev. Mr Cole, 5th June, 1775, says—"People don't know how entertaining a study it (genealogy) is. Who begot whom is a most amusing kind of hunting; one recovers a grandfather instead of breaking one's own neck—and then one grows so pious to the memory of a thousand persons one never heard of before."

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

Remarkable Cases of Longevity at Strichen.

There were four persons in the parish of Strichen, buried within the compass of a few weeks, whose ages added together amounted to three hundred and seventy years.—"Weekly Magazine," 22nd November, 1770.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1876.

January 2. At 46 Bon-Accord Street, Mrs Jane Ogilvie Forbes of Boyndlie, widow of John Charles Ogilvie, M.D., aged 83.

January 22. At Springfield, Peterhead, Mr James Hutchison, in his 54th year.

January 22. At St Leonards-on-Sea, suddenly, George Augustus Frederick Elphinstone

Dalrymple, formerly Colonial Secretary of Queensland, and youngest son of the late Sir Robert Dalrymple Horn Elphinstone, Bart. of Logie-Elphinstone, aged 49.

January 27. At 102 High Street, Inverurie, Anne, fourth daughter of the late Dr Thomas Thomson, Inverurie, aged 51 years.

January 28. At 29 Queen Ann Street, Cavendish Square, London, Susan, eldest daughter of the late Rev. Ferdinand Ellis, of Culsalmond.

February 18. At 18 Albyn Place, Georgina, last surviving daughter of the late Charles Bannerman, Esq., in her 84th year.

January 26. At Hamilton, Canada, the Rev. William Troup, son of the late William Troup, farmer, Dalbagie, Ballater, aged 54.

February 19. At Toronto, Canada West, Euphemia, wife of Charles S. Ross, Esq., Assistant-Receiver-General, Ontario, and daughter of the late Rev. George Cruden, minister of Logie-Buchan.

February 25. At 1 Golden Square, Mary Stuart, aged 84, widow of Alexander Glennie of Maybank, and daughter of the late John Stuart of Inchbreck, Professor of Greek in Marischal College.

February 21. At Tillychetly, Alford, Charles M'Combie, Sen., aged 73 [? 74].

February 27. At 5 Eton Terrace, Edinburgh, Francis Farquharson, Esq. of Finzean.

March 17. At Ardhallow, Dunoon, Susan Place, relict of the Rev. Daniel Dewar, D.D., LL.D., Principal of Marischal College, youngest daughter of the late Edward Place, Esq. of Skelton Grange, Yorkshire, and granddaughter of George, third Earl of Aberdeen.

March 27. At Old Aberdeen, David Robert Morice, Advocate in Aberdeen.

March 23. At 5 West Craibstone Street, Margaret Helen Leslie Collie, in her 25th year, wife of James Macdonald, M.D., H.M.I. Army.

March 30. At Nether Towie, Jane Jopp, relict of Mr John Fyfe, Parochial Schoolmaster, Towie, aged 81 years.

March 31. At Madrid, Carlos Pedro Gordon, younger of Wardhouse and Kildrummy.

April 24. At 169 Crown Street, Christian Paton, widow of Peter Cumine, late of Fraserburgh.

May 13. At 33 Albyn Place, George Horn Best, eldest son of George Allan, Advocate, aged 26.

May 19. At Huntly, Admiral Charles Gordon, aged 78.

May 29. At Kingswells, Una Mackenzie, wife of Francis Edmond, Advocate in Aberdeen.

May 30. At 33 Union Place, Aberdeen, Mrs Louisa Wilson, widow of Rev John Wilson, late Minister of the North Parish Church.

May 23. At Tornaveen, George Reid, Teacher, in his 89th year.

May 31. At Free Church Manse, Blairdaff, Rev. David Mitchell, A.M., aged 67.

June 4. At Edinburgh, Anne Forbes, relict of Alexander Thurburn, Esq. of Alexandria, and daughter of the late Rev. Patrick Forbes, D.D., King's College, Aberdeen, aged 69.

June 9. At View Place, Rosemount, John, elder son of the late Rev. John Leslie, Minister of Udny, aged 19.

June 6. At Keith, William Thurburn, Solicitor, aged 62.

June 14. At 257 George Street, Aberdeen, George Robb, Esq. of Pittrichie.

June 20. At the Schoolhouse, Kincardine O'Neil, James Grant, Schoolmaster.

June 25. At Uckfield, Sussex, Isabella, last surviving child of the late Thomas Kilgour, Esq. of Bethelnie.

July 29. At Blackhall, Banchory-Ternan, suddenly, Sir Henry Percy Gordon, Bart. of Northcourt, Isle of Wight, and Knockespock, Aberdeenshire.

August 11. At Stonehaven, James Christian, W.S., Sheriff-Clerk of Kincardineshire, aged 75.

August 26. At Cosie Brae, Cults, Nathaniel Farquhar, Advocate, Aberdeen, aged 30.

August 16. At the West Lodge of Pitfour, Alexander Smith, in the 93rd year of his age. As late gardener at Pitfour he laid out the Old Abbey orchard in 1805-6, and actively superintended it and the other gardens within the policies for upwards of sixty years.

June 14. At Waratah, New Town, Hobart Town, Tasmania, Patrick Irvine, Esq., formerly of Inveramsay, Aberdeenshire.

September 16. At Crathes Castle, aged 75, Sir James Horn Burnett, Bart. of Leys, Lord-Lieutenant of Kincardineshire.

September 10. At Stracathro House, Forfarshire, Sir James Campbell of Stracathro, in his 87th year.

September 20. At the Manse, Bervie, Rev. John Glegg, Minister of the Parish, in the 84th year of his age, and 56th of his ministry.

October 11. At 23 Crown Street, Aberdeen, Rev. William Jamieson, Minister of the North Parish, Aberdeen, aged 45.

October 11. At the Manse of Drumoak, Rev. Adam Corbet, D.D., in the 78th year of his age, and 57th of his ministry.

October 21. At 45 High Street, Old Aberdeen, in her 75th year, Helen, widow of Rev. James Gordon Garioch, Minister of Strachan, and daughter of the late Rev. John Roger, Minister of Kincardine O'Neil.

October 26. At 4 Golden Square, Henry Adamson, shipowner, aged 82.

October 30. At 3 Ann Place, Mary Watson, widow of Nathaniel Farquhar, Advocate in Aberdeen.

November 9. At Tarland, Mary Farquharson, widow of Rev. Charles Macpherson, Minister of Tomintoul, in her 76th year.

November 16. At Bridport, Dorset, Mary Heron Maxwell, wife of Sir James Dalrymple Horn Elphinstone of Horn and Logie-Elphinstone, Baronet, M.P.

December 12. At 13 Chanonry, Old Aberdeen, The Very Rev. Peter Colin Campbell, D.D., Principal of the University of Aberdeen, in his 67th year.

December 1. At Calcutta, Alexander Gordon, Esq., only son of the late Rev. Alexander Gordon, Minister of Forglen.

December 28. At 59 Dee Street, Agnes, relict of Rev. John Leask.

Queries.

582. Mosman Relationship.—At Brisbane, Queensland, on 14th March, 1888, James Morton Peto Campbell, son of the late James A. Campbell, M.P., of Stracathro, married Alice Eliza, youngest daughter of the late Archibald Mosman, of Sydney, N.S. Wales. Did any relationship exist between this Archibald Mosman and the brothers Thomas Mosman, advocate, and William Mosman, painter, both in Aberdeen?

C.

583. Arthur Smith.—Arthur Smith was a house-painter on the Shore, Aberdeen, and was in partnership for some time with George Smith, a free, outspoken man, whom I remember well. Arthur Smith afterwards made a specialty in his profession by painting the various clippers that were launched from the shipbuilding yards of Messrs Hall, Hood, and Duthie, with sometimes the Girdleness Lighthouse in the foreground, and the vessel at sea with sails set, and sometimes with the sails clewed up. Frequently as a boy I gazed at his latest marine painting in the shop window on the Shore, and although I have since visited many a picture gallery in Europe, seldom have I seen any vessels or seascapes that roused my admiration like those I saw from his humble atelier in the happy days of youth. He died during the 'seventies of last century. Wanted, the date of his death, age, etc.

Alba.

584. Barony of Pittarrow.—Could any reader say what properties the Barony of Pittarrow formerly embraced, where it was situated, and what its extent was?

D. R.

Answers.

456. Francis Shaw, Antiquary.—Francis Shaw, graduated M.A. at King's College in March, 1841. He excelled as a Latinist, and his services were frequently commissioned in legal disputes where translations and complicated investigations required to be made.

R. R.

478. James Strachan, Advocate.—Strachan was alive till after 1803. Probably he was the James Strachan, "Aberdonensis," who graduated M.A. at King's College, 31st March, 1766.

G. G.

574. Alexander Stewart of Colpnay.—The remains of Mr Stewart were interred in Drum's Aisle, 18th October, 1712, so that he must have died a few days previously.

C.

No. 136.—November 25, 1910.

Old Vocabulary of Heriot's Hospital.

On 3rd September last there appeared in the "Scotsman" an interesting article from the pen of "W. G." on the vocabulary in popular use among the boys in residence at George Heriot's Hospital, Edinburgh, which was opened in 1659. From it we extract the following:—

The Wark was the old Scottish name for Heriot's magnificent pile; the contraction "barty" for bartisan and "tirlie-wirlies" for its ornamental carvings. The scholars were noted as daring climbers, and used these decorations to help them upwards in their attempts to scale the walls. Once a year, on the anniversary of the founder's birth, kept on the first Monday in June, his statue was ornamented with flowers by the Auld Callants or Old Boys. The outgoing boys had to decorate the shields, thistles, cornucopias, the crown, and other devices, emblematic of the name and character of Heriot. These operations were styled respectively "busking the effigy" and "bulging the properties."

The Governor was appropriately termed the "Gove," and the females who performed certain domestic duties went by the name of "wifies." The butler, a very important official, had the curious name of "Cude," and his more humble colleague the porter was known as "Fuddy." The reputation of the boys in the early days of the institution was not very high. In the records we get a glimpse now and again of their conduct, which no doubt was a reflex of the age, and due in part also to defective supervision. During the Civil Wars, Cromwell's troops had occupied what of the Hospital had been already built. On their retiral, a drummer was left in the building under some capacity or other, and he had the bad fortune to incur the ill-will of the boys. He was done to death on the great stairway, and the step on which he died was regarded with superstitious awe by successive generations of scholars. To tread on it meant ill-luck, and when all the other steps were worn down by constant use, this one retained its first form, and even the blood-staine of the murdered soldier! In 1741, we are told, Mr Whitefield visited the Hospital, and wrought a great change among the inmates, who were noted before that time "for the wickedest boys about town." The pupils had elaborated a system of government of their own which constituted an "imperium in imperio." This was known as "The Garring Law." The word "garrer" was defined as "one who compelled the younger boys to do anything required." Steven tells us that after a boy had been five years in the institution, he was duly recognised by his companions as a "garrer." The six oldest boys in the house were denominated "The Muckle Chields" and the next seven "The Casting Votes." By these seven the younger boys were organised, and in their hands was the chief command. They directed all their "bickerings" both in and out of town, and statedly held courts. Immediately after a boy's entrance to the Hospital, he was sadly maltreated, or "tamed into the garring law." Severe punishment was inflicted by the seven upon any who revealed the secrets of the fraternity. We are told that the "garrers" seldom ate the common food of the Hospital, but were sumptuously entertained, having the cook under their control. In 1751 the Governors made a vigorous attempt to deal with this obnoxious system of "fagging," but even as late as 1825 the "garring law" still caused difficulty, and we hear of frequent desertions of boys from the Hospital.

In 1670 breakfast for the boys consisted of porridge and ale: supper alternately of milk and bread and of bread and ale, except on Sunday, when it was roast beef in summer and broth and beef in winter. Dinner consisted of fish, eggs, or broth and meat.

In 1695 exemption was allowed from all excise on beer and ale consumed in the Hospital. Perhaps the boys believed that their ale paid heavy duty to the butler, for we find that their beverage was contemptuously designated "Cude's wash." The nineteenth century menu, given in Steven's History does not include ale, but the old word lived long. Porridge was "pot" (cf. Northern pottich), and the skin on its surface was styled "brat," a meaning which may be found in Jamieson. The knots of meal in their porridge were known as "chucks." In the North of England, Edinburgh, and East Antrim, "chuck" means, or used to mean, "bread." "Hard chuck" in nautical phrase is sea biscuit, but at Westminster School the word stands for a schoolboy's treat. The Heriotor called pieces of bread "chits," which both Jamieson and Wright have recorded. His allowance of bread he dubbed a "dose." In 1742, this dose was reduced from 20oz. to 16oz. The fat years may have given rise to a peculiar meaning attached to his word "ess"—viz., "to save part of an allowance of bread to pay a debt," and the subsequent lean years to the term "paule," half an allowance. Both these words have a distinct Latin flavour about them, and in any case have not been noted in our Scottish lexicons. My list records two kinds of soup—"tuse" (potato) soup and "pea-claw." Jamieson says nothing about the first, and "claw" with him is a verb meaning to eat voraciously. The favourite spoon of the foundationer was called a "cutty," which needs no interpretation to a Scotsman. In the Hospital, the Scots verb "kemp," to fight or compete, meant to "sup hurriedly." "Cone" was the Heriot term for butcher meat, and its origin is obscure. Jamieson records "connie" or "con-

neis" from Sibbald's "Chronicles of Scottish Poetry," and suggests the meaning of provisions and the French "convoi" as a possible source. In "The Cursor Mundi" occurs the word "conrai" entertainment. Our schoolboy term may be a contraction of one of these words. The spoil of the neighbouring gardens "Yapps" (apples) and "Blobbs" (gooseberries) were "palie" to the palate of the foundationers, i.e., sweet or delicious. "Yapp" is an unrecorded variant of apple, and "palie" does not appear in any form as a Scots word. "Swags" were the pockets of a Herioter, and what more appropriate word could be devised for the bulging hold-alls of the average boy? "Sock" was his name for sweetmeats or delicacies—a word which at Eton means "edibles of various kinds privately imported." In Devon "socket" stands for a goody, and in West York, Hertford, Suffolk, and Essex "sucker" signifies a sweet or lollipop.

"Dawtie," a favourite companion; "birsy," angry; "dirk," to blunder or bungle; "prodie," a trinket or toy; "fiup," a person of clumsy appearance (cf. Aberdeen fleep); "hain," to save up; "cawn soul," a cunning person, are all within the reach of the average Scot. But what about "gush," to envy; "rorie," a lie; "skit," to steal; "yauchie," a Highlander; "willies," clippings of cloth; "plant," a poker or iron rod? "Daverer," a shuffler, may be connected with "daver," to wander, to be benumbed; and "ging," filth (adj. gingie), is known to Jamieson under the form "geing," dung—of old English origin. "Kell," a scabbed head, recalls the fact that scrofula was once a dreaded scourge in the Hospital. In 1747, our chronicle tells us, "The treasurer intimated to the Council that at present there were fewer scrophulous (sic) boys in the Hospital than had been in it for a considerable time past." This welcome change was attributed to a more rational method of dieting. The middle of the eighteenth century seems to mark a physical and moral turning point in the life of the boys and a quickening in the feeling of responsibility on the part of the Governors.

As regards the boys' games, "nacket" is a little ball which Jamieson says was used at shinty, but he has nothing about the Herioters' "buist," a football. "To cap" was "to take possession of anything used in play out of season," which is a variation of the dictionary meaning "to seize by violence." "Bree," to spring past a person, suggests the Scottish "bray" to push or shove. "Chizzy," a chosen article, is an interesting variant of the word "choose." "Bullie," a battle, and "bullie-stick," mealie, a mob, suggest fierce encounters in the playground or with such outsiders as the George Watson boys, called "Neets," or town-boys, named "Cowlies." The Herioters were known among themselves as "Naps." In Jamieson the meaning of "nap" is clever; "nappie" means strong or heady, and all readers of Burns are familiar with it as applied to ale. Nab or knab is an important person, or one who considers himself so. "Ajax's address to the Grecian Knabs" is well known to readers of our Northern Scottish literature. The Knabrie were the lower class of gentry in Scotland. When we speak of "his nabs comin' down the street," we are giving the Scottish equivalent for the modern "swelled head." . . .

[Mr William Grant, M.A., Ashfield, Cults, Aberdeenshire, Convener of the Scottish Dialect Committee of the English Association, was the writer of the foregoing article. Mr Grant's efforts to discover and preserve old and unrecorded Scottish words are worthy of the highest praise, and it is hoped that all readers conversant with rare words formerly used in Schools and Institutions in Scotland will transmit a note of them (if possible with meaning or illustrative sentence in which they occur) to Mr Grant forthwith.—Ed.]

A Gordon Parson as Don Juan.

The Rev. Lockhart Gordon, son of the Hon. Lockhart Gordon (1732-88), and grandson of John, 3rd Earl of Aboyne (died 1732), ran away with Mrs Lee on January 15, 1804 (his brother Loudon joining in the flight). They were tried (and acquitted) at the Oxford Assizes on March 5. A bad feature in the case was that Lockhart had recently married, and his young wife died of a broken heart. The recent issue of Palmer's index to the "Times" of 1804 serves to remind us the deep impression made on the community by his faithlessness, and it shows incidentally, to what lengths newspapers could then go. The press of to-day, with all its faults, is not nearly so reckless—despite the popular (and legal) opinion to the contrary. On May 7, 1804, the "Times" quoted the following paragraph from the "Sherburne Journal":—"On Tuesday [May 1], died at Dorchester, in the prime of life, of a broken heart, universally regretted by all who knew her, Mrs Gordon, wife of the Rev. Lockhart Gordon." On May 31, the "Times" printed this further statement from the "Hull Packet":—"On Wednesday, seven night [May 9], the remains of Mrs [Mary Anne] Gordon, wife of the Rev. Lockhart Gordon, were interred (at the expense of a few charitably-disposed people) in the Holy Trinity Churchyard, Dorchester. She was a branch of a very respectable family in Shropshire, and by her union incurred the displeasure of all her friends, and was renounced by them for ever. She arrived at Dorchester unprotected, where she took an obscure lodging. The idea of thus being abandoned and the shock she received by a recent transaction in Oxford preyed on her so forcibly that she fell a victim to inconsolable grief in her 21st year." Curiously enough, I have never been able to discover her maiden name, nor the date of her worthless husband's death.

J. M. Bulloch.

Michie Forbes More.

Michie Forbes More, commander of the British brig Gallant lying in the river Hooghly, off Calcutta, and bound for China, died on or about 31st March, 1858. In his will dated 21st February, 1857, he bequeaths his property to his adopted daughter, Eliza Jane Wright, known and called by the name of More; constitutes and appoints his friends, William Ustick Lemon, of Calcutta, gentleman, manager of the firm of A. Thompson, and Company, rope manufacturers, Calcutta, and Thomas Viall, Lower Circular Road, Calcutta, gentleman, and at present a marine surveyor in the said Port of Calcutta, executors of the will and guardians to his said adopted daughter. In case of his adopted daughter dying before the age of 21, the property shall go to his sister Beauvoes More, spinster, Aberdeen; Harriett Robertson (by birth More), wife of Mr Robertson, with whose Christian name or names and present place of residence he is unacquainted; Mary More, spinster, Aberdeen; and Huntly Gordon Reid (also by birth More), of London, widow, to be divided between them share and share alike, or to the survivor of them at the death of the said Eliza Jane Wright, otherwise called More.

C. M.

Singular Mortality among Conveners.

No fewer than five Conveners of the Incorporated Trades of this city have died within the last ten months. These are — Convener Carter, Convener Leslie, Convener Robb, Convener Thomson, and Convener (Baillie) Harper. The three last have died in the course of the last six weeks. Such mortality among the Conveners of this city, we believe, is unprecedented.—"Aberdeen Journal," March 28, 1838.

Insula Sanctorum.

My friend Mr Neil Izett gave me a copy of an inedited epigram, signed "Andrew Whaup," which he believes is the handiwork of the late Alexander Rodger, the Glasgow poet, well known as a humorous Scottish song writer. He was a clever satirical bard, but a kindly man withal, for there is an octogenarian journalist here who, when a wee laddie, used to be dowdled on Sandy's knee. As the poet died on 26 September, 1846, that was not yesterday. "Andrew Whaup" was one of his pen names, and he must have been grievously hurt at the invasion of Glasgow by the successive Irish squads in search of employment which their own country could not give them. Here is the epigram:—

THE ISLAND O' SAINTS.

If in the misty days o' auld
(As aft we hear the story tauld)
Our Scottish youth to Ireland went,
On gettin' learnin' fully bent,
An' Saxons too, for records gave
King Alfred's name amang the lave;
It's strange eneuch that noo-a-days
Hibernia back the custom pays,
By sendin' ower to us a gang
O' sorners ignorant an' strang,
In ilka way resemblin' brutes,
But that they haena got the clutes—
Types o' that vaunted English rule
Which barbarized the ancient school,
An' o' the Isle o' Saints re-made
An Isle o' Savages instead!

ALBA.

Melbourne, Australia.

Register of Indentures for the Burgh of Aberdeen.

(Continued.)

1793.

October 5. William Kemlo, son of John Kemlo, weaver in Gilcomston, p. to George Sim, saddler and harness maker; 5 years from 5th December, 1788. No fee. The father and Andrew Wilson, wright, cautioners.

" 22. John Mortimer, son of George Mortimer, stabler, p. to John Ross, baker; 5 years from 1st January, 1789. Fee, £5. The father cautioner.

James Adam son to John Adam at Upper Mill of Keig, p. to John Ross, baker; 5 years from 1st January, 1790. Fee, £5. The father cautioner.

" 30. Alexander Morison, son to John Morison, wright, p. to Joseph Yule, taylor; 6 years from 30th October, 1787. No fee. The father cautioner.

November 8. John Gray, son to the deceast James Gray in Traylodge, p. to John Wallace, baker; 4 years from 1st December, 1789. Fee, £8. John Hunter in Confunderland cautioner.

" 30. James Anson, son of the deceast David Anson, late horsehirer, one of the boys in the Poor's Hospital, p. to Peter Elmslie, shoemaker; 6 years from 12th December, 1787. Fee, 10s yearly during apprenticeship. William Duncan, schoolmaster, and Samuel Pillar, cowfeeder, cautioners.

1794.

January 29. Andrew Ogg, son to John Ogg, miller at Wierdmill of Drum, in parish of Drumoak, p. to William French, baker; 5 years from 9th August, 1789. Fee, £5. The father cautioner.

February 27. Robert Catto, son of the deceast Charles Catto, sometime wright in Foveran, p. to Catto and Reid, merchants: 4 years from 1st April, 1790. No fee. Robert Black, farmer in Auchnacant, cautioner.

March 7. Peter Taylor, son to the deceast John Taylor, farmer in ——, p. to James Clark, taylor; 7 years after 28th March, 1787. No fee. Alexander Thomson, mason, and Alexander Wilson, woolcomber, cautioners.

William Davidson, son of Thomas Davidson, weaver, one of the boys in Robert Gordon's Hospital, p. to John Leslie, goldsmith and jeweller; 5 years after 20th April, 1789. Fee, £100 Scots. The father and John Copland, treasurer of the Hospital, cautioners.

William Levie, son to William Levie, sailor p. to George Strachan, shoemaker: 6 years from 1st April 1788. No fee. The father and John Smith, labourer, cautioners.

March 15. Andrew Milne, son to John Milne, residenter near the Bridge of Don, p. to Nathaniel Burnett, baker: 6 years after 18th March, 1783. No fee. Alexander Allan, at the brick and tyle manufactory near the Bridge of Don, and James Gibson, farmer in Links, cautioners.

April 16. Alexander Will, son to the deceast Andrew Will at Broadford, p. to John Gartly, clock and watchmaker: 6 years after 20th April, 1788. No fee. George Ferrier, candlemaker, cautioner.

,, 29. James Bain, son to the deceast Farquhar Bain flaxdresser, p. to William Bean, weaver: 7 years after 2nd February, 1789. No fee. John Smith, gardener to the Infirmary, cautioner.

James Henderson, son to William Henderson in Auchlunies, p. to William Bain, weaver: 5 years after 28th May, 1791. Fee, 2 bolls of meal. The father cautioner.

Alexander M'Kenzie, son to Duncan M'Kenzie, quarrier at Skene's Square, p. to William Bain, weaver: 5 years after 12th August, 1793. Fee, £2 15s. The father cautioner.

Alexander Smith, son to Alexander Smith, carter in the Schoolhill, p. to William Bain, weaver: 5 years after 18th March, 1794. Fee, £4. The father cautioner.

Alexander Moir, son to Alexander Moir in Cardhillock, parish of Newhills, p. to William Sang, baker: 5 years after 1st May, 1793. No fee. The father cautioner.

May 12. Robert Horn, son to the deceased John Horn in Oldmeldrum, p. to Robert Birnie, tanner and currier: 5 years after 13th August, 1789. No fee. Joseph Berry, weaver, and Alexander Shand, miller, cautioners.

,, John P. Stuart, son to Alexander Stuart, at Leslie House, in the parish of Leslie, p. to Alexander Mitchell, merchant: 3 years after 24th June, 1791. Fee, £30 sterl. The father cautioner.

June 9. Andrew Pirie, son to Alexander Pirie, wheelwright, p. to James Firnie, wright: 5 years after 11th June, 1789. Fee, £10. The father cautioner.

August 7. George Moir, son to William Moir in Bendach, parish of Dyce, p. to Margaret Morice, baker; 5 years after Whitsunday, 1791. Fee, £2. The father cautioner.

James Fettes, son of the deceast Alexander Fettes, cartwright in Old Aberdeen, p. to Margaret Morice, baker: 5 years after 8th January, 1792. Fee, £5. Mary Ogston, his mother, and William Christie, saddler, cautioners.

Robert Brown son of George Brown in Logie, p. to Charles Farquharson, merchant; 7 years after Martinmas, 1787. Fee, £10. The father cautioner.

September 1. John Matthew, son of Alexander Matthew, shoemaker in Logie, p. to George Watson, baker: 5 years after Martinmas, 1789. Fee, £5. The father and Robert Vass, stabler in Aberdeen, cautioners.

,, 20. Robert Greenlaw, son to the deceast William Greenlaw in Castlehill, p. to James Gordon and Company, gold-smiths; 7 years after 4th December, 1787. No fee. William Hector in Muir of Rynie, cautioner.

Alex. M. Munro.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1877.

January 10. Suddenly, at Ecclesgreig House, James Forbes Beattie, Esq., C.E., 2 Bon-Accord Square, Aberdeen, in the 73rd year of his age.

January 23. At Heathcot, Adam Mitchell, builder, aged 54.

February 6. At Seaton House, Old Aberdeen, Elizabeth Bannerman, wife of Alex. P. Hogarth.

February 25. At Wealthiton, Keig, Alexander Bruce, merchant, in his 77th year.

March 8. At Aberdeen Madame Sophie de Berlaire, widow of Rev. George Tulloch, LL.D., formerly of Bellevue.

March 12. At Church Street, Huntly, Captain James Alexander Gordon, R.N., Ittingston, aged 89.

March 31. At Stonehaven, Helen Brown, widow of Arthur W. Kinnear, solicitor, Stonehaven, in her 68th year.

March 30. At Glack House, John Mackenzie, Esq. of Glack, aged 64.

April 5. At 29 Bon-Accord-Terrace, Aberdeen Christian Milne, widow of Major Thomas Youngson, H.E.I.C.S., in her 84th year.

April 30. At 49 Schoolhill, William Henderson, M.D., of Caskieben, aged 84.

April 19. At Muir of Alford, Alexander Farquharson, fourth son of the late James Farquharson, Esq., Belnabodach, in his 79th year.

April 24. At the Manse, Glenmuick, John Gerard, elder son of Rev. John Middleton, in his 21st year.

May 10. At 74 Dee Street, Marianus Massie, Advocate.

May 8. At Fosterseat, William Stephen of West Cults, late of Easter Elchies.

June 2. At Bowiebank, near Banff, Mary Birnie, wife of Thomas Adam, National Bank, Aberdeen.

June 10. At 32 South Mount Street, Helen Malcolm, wife of John Bulloch, senior, aged 80.

June 7. At London, Charlotte Still, wife of William Oughterson, C.E., Dungannon, daughter of the late William Simpson, Procurator-Fiscal of Aberdeenshire, aged 46.

March 25. At Geelong, Hon. William Skene of Skene, Hamilton, Victoria, son of the late Thomas Skene, Fife, Belhelvie.

June 20. At Aberdeen, Sophia Jane, younger daughter of the late Rev. William Campbell, of Coull.

June 22. At 23 Dee Street, Aberdeen, Rev. Thomas Moir, Minister of the Free Church, Cruden.

June 22. At Bandley, Alford, George Garden, farmer.

June 24. At 6 Great King Street, Edinburgh, Alexander Duthie, Esq. of Ruthrieston, Advocate, Aberdeen.

July 13. At Stralech, Christina Susan, eldest daughter of the late Sir John Innes of Balvenie and Edingight, Bart., aged 80.

July 25. At Edinburgh, Arthur Dingwall Fordyce, Esq., Adjutant 78th Highlanders, aged 32, youngest son of the late Captain Dingwall Fordyce, R.N., of Culsh and Brucklay.

July 22. At Bays Hill Lawn, Cheltenham, Alexander Crombie, Esq. of Thornton, in his 81st year.

August 10. At East Bank, Ferryhill, William Lumsden, Merchant, aged 72.

August 6. At 7 West Castle Road, Merchiston, Edinburgh, Barron Grahame, Esq. of Morphie, D.L., Kincardineshire.

August 14. At 93 Queen Street, Rev. Charles Cordiner, late of Kinnmonth, in his 70th year.

August 17. At Balnagask, Margaret, daughter of the late Robert Davidson, senior, of Balnagask, and widow of William Maule Moir-on, of H.M. 71st Regt., in her 89th year.

August 29. At Manse of Glass, Rev. William Duguid, D.D., minister of the parish, in the 83rd year of his age.

September 8. At Beechhill, Aberdeen, Mr James Williamson, Advocate, Aberdeen, formerly in Newton of Mountblairy.

September 6. At Broom Wood, Clapham Common, London, Caroline Combe, wife of Sir Charles Forbes, Bart., of Newe.

October 14. At Free Manse, Old Aberdeen, Rev. Thomas Gardiner, in his 53rd year.

October 19. At F.C. Manse, Craigmyle, Kincardine O'Neil, Jane Gillespie, wife of Rev. William Smith, in her 55th year.

November 2. At 12 The Limes, Sydenham, Sarah, widow of Dr Campbell, late of H.E.I.C.S., widow of the late Rev. John Ross, of Strathpeffer, and daughter of the late David Young, Esq. of Cornhill, Aberdeen.

November 11. At the Manse, Old Aberdeen, Rev. Robert Smith, D.D., senior minister of the parish of Oldmachar, in the 81st year of his age, and 57th of his ministry.

November 14. At Craigievar Combination Schoolhouse, Rev. William M'Robert, A.M., aged 55.

November 19. At Galleries, Helen, youngest daughter of Rev. Dr Glennie, Professor of Moral Philosophy in Marischal College.

November 28. At Rothie-Brisbane, Fyvie, Charles Chalmers of Monkshill, advocate, in his 83th year.

November 26. At Oldmeldrum, John Manson of Fingask, in his 74th year.

December 23. At Rothie-Norman, Jonathan Forbes Leslie of Rothie, late Lieutenant-Colonel of the 78th Highlanders, in his 80th year.

December 29. At 14 Rose Street, Aberdeen, William Ross, Advocate, aged 73.

Scottish Notes and Queries in the Public Library.

In order to make good certain defects in the Public Library set of the above, Mr G. M. Fraser, Librarian, would be glad to hear from anyone who has the following pages to spare—

Vol. vii.—(Nov., 1893)—pages 93 and 94;
Vol. viii.—(June, 1894)—pages 7, 8, 9, and 10.

Queries.

585. Lord and Lady Braco.—Who were Lord and Lady Braco, and who were their parents? Lady Braco at the time of the erection of Gilcomston Parish Church in 1771, presented it with a Bible. What had influenced the presentation? All particulars of interest will oblige.

M. H. M.

586. The 1843 Disruption.—Are there any ministers surviving who came out of the Church of Scotland at the Disruption of 1843? If so, what are their names and records?

M. H. M.

587. "Lindsay's Folly."—A house and ground in Aberdeen at one time bore the significant title of "Lindsay's Folly." Where was the property?

R. R.

Answers.

443. Shearer.—"W. A. H." inquires about the surname Shearer, if it had a Teutonic origin? I can assure him that the name is common in Germany, meaning the same as with us. I knew a German barber, named Carl Scherer, in Shawell, a gold-mining township, who has often shorn my superabundant thatch.

Alba.

481. Naltery, or Nalteray.—Is not Monaltrie on Deeside the place inquired about? I have seen it named Naltry.

D.

516. The Gordons of Croughly.—

562. Lochdhu.—

[To both these queries we would say that "M. H. M." will find all information desired in "The Croughly Book," compiled by Captain George Huntly Blair Gordon, R.E.; edited by J. Percy Gordon, and printed by subscription for private circulation, 1895. Croughly is in Kirkmichael. There are no Gordons there now. Lochdhu is near Nairn. General William Alexander Gordon, the father of General Sir Charles Gordon, was James Gordon, Croughly (1726-1812). Mr J. M. Bulloch has made a complete study of the Croughly Gordons.—Ed.]

578. Ferryhill Lands.—These lands, which belonged to Alexander Tower of Logie, were advertised for sale in June, 1827, the extent being given as 112 acres Imperial measure, or 90 acres Scotch.

W. G.

No. 137.—December 2, 1910.

"Martinmas Time" in Ballad Lore.

In the old Scottish ballads frequent reference is made to the "Martinmas time," and among the ancient poets and balladists the term only just escaped becoming a regular stock phrase. This is not surprising, for in rural Scotland Martinmas was a time of considerable importance. It was the dividing line between summer and winter, and preparations were then begun or ended for the purpose of being in a fitting position to meet the impending severities. When, therefore, Martinmas is mentioned in these ballads, it is always associated with some natural or social feature of the time.

The ballad of "Jamie Telfer" opens—

"It fell about the Martinmas tyde,
When our Border steeds get corn and hay."

At the period referred to agricultural affairs were in a very backward state in Scotland, and the condition of farm stock was almost incredible. During the winter season they were practically starved, as little food was available for them. It therefore follows that hand feeding was not indulged in as long as the animals could scrape a mere subsistence out of doors. From the lines quoted we may infer that it was about the "Martinmas tyde" that the horses were first taken indoors and supplied with corn and hay on the Scottish Borders.

Another old ballad, which I have never seen in print, begins—

"It fell about the Martinmas time,
When the snow lay on the Borders,
There came a troop o' Irish dragoons
To take up their winter quarters."

Here reference is made to the early advent of winter, for snow at, and before, Martinmas was by no means uncommon. About this season it was also usual for troops "to take up their winter quarters" on the Borders, where they generally passed the winter months, for these were not the days of railways and good roads, and means of transit and communication were often rendered impossible by the advent of heavy snowstorms.

"It fell about the Martinmas time,
When the wind blew shrill and cauld;
Says Edom o' Gordon to his men,
'We maun draw to a hauld.'"

Thus begins the ballad of "Edom o' Gordon." The lines evidently refer to the practice of Highland freebooters. During the summer months these hardy marauders preferred safety to the shelter of a roof, and passed the night where it overtook them, or in some wild and secluded mountain fastness. But even their iron frames could not endure exposure to the vicissitudes of winter, and when the "shrill and cauld" winds of Martinmas heralded the approach of snowstorms, they generally betook themselves to the shelter of a roof of some kind.

"Barbara Allan" begins:—

"It was in and about the Martinmas time,
When the green leaves were a-falling."

These lines appear to me to be rather contrary to fact. The fall of the leaf generally begins in October, and most of the trees and shrubs are stripped bare long before Martinmas. Moreover, the leaves can scarcely be termed "green" when they fall: "sear and yellow" being the description oftenest applied to them. Here fact has evidently been sacrificed for poetic licence, and for the sake of rhyme—a by no means unusual occurrence in ancient poetical effusions.

In the "Barrin' o' the Door" we have—

"It fell about the Martinmas time,
And a gay time it was than,
For our gudewife had puddings to mak',
And she boiled them in the pan."

Here again is a reference to preparation for winter. What sort of puddings they were is not stated, but as they were "white" and "black," they must have been those of some animal, in all probability those of the pig. At many of the homesteads and cottages of rural Scotland, pigs were, and still are, kept. Purchased in spring, they are fed off in autumn, and often slaughtered about Martinmas. The reason for this is twofold. Firstly, unless comfortably housed and well fed, pigs do not put on flesh rapidly during the cold weather of winter; and secondly, a good supply of pork is assured, just when most needed. That the killing of the pig should be marked by gaiety in the poorer dwellings is evident, for the youngsters—ay, and older folks as well— would look forward to the prospective repasts upon nice fresh pork, and "white" and "black" puddings as a veritable feast.

David Grewar, F.S.A. (Scot.).

The Name of Gordon.

The name of Gordon has been extraordinarily dominant wherever it has travelled. In the case of the north of Scotland, not only did the Gordons actually outbreed the great families they found there when they went to Strathbogie in the fourteenth century, but ever since they have shown the tendency to absorb other surnames—notable cases occur to-day in that of Wolridge-Gordon, Fellowes-Gordon, Gordon Cathcart, and so on, heiresses of the name constantly insisting on the preservation of their patronymic. Far more puzzling was the exchange of other surnames for Gordon on the mere ground of vassalage, a practice that continued down to the 18th century, and which makes the writing of the history of the smaller families extremely difficult. A characteristic case oc-

cured in 1711 when the name M'Gregor was abandoned for that of Gordon ("Spalding Club Misc." iii, 234):—

Wee, John and James M'Grigars, laull sones to Grigar M'Grigar, somtyme of Delivorar, for the speall lowe and fawour we bear for ane noble and potent lord, Alexander, Marquise off Huntley, and his noble family, binds and obliges us, our airs, and successors, and all that ewer shall come of us and our familys quatsomeuer, to call ourselves and to be Gordones from this present tyme, furth, and for ever and all our posterity, oblidgeing us aforsaid, and ours quatsomeuer, to own ourselves to be Gordones, still attending and depending on the noble family of Huntly, and that both in word and write, in all tyme comeing; and we furder oblidge us that we neuer shall subscrive to or signe any papers but Gordons, as aforsaid, in omnibus, as to our names and subscriptions, or others abou narrated: and for the more security we consent thir presentts be insert and registrat in the books of councell and sessione, or others competent, within this kingdom, that all executions necessar may be direct hereon in form as effeirs, and thairunto wee constitute, ... our prors., and in wittnes thaireff wee hawe subscrived thir presentts with our hands, at Gordon Castle, the seventh day of Agust, jaj, vij, and eleven years, befor wittnes John Gordon of Aberlour, Mr Hugh Tod off Overtoune, Mr Alexander Mitchell, schoolmaster at Fochabers, and Norman Hutchone, messenger, the wryter hereoff.

Jo. Gordon.

J. Gordon, witnes. A Mitchell, witnes.
Ja. Gordon. H. Tod, witnes.

An article by the present writer in the "Banffshire Reporter," Portsoy, Nov. 16, 1910, described how a Montpellier family of Gordon has taken the name of Gordon-Martins. This Gordon family is descended from those Gordons who have been famous for a London gin for over a century. They claim descent from Abergeldie.

J. M. B.

Song by Goldsmith.

After the death, in 1774, of Oliver Goldsmith (whose tomb I was somewhat shocked to see in a sort of right-of-way or blind alley beside Temple Church, London), Boswell made a great fuss about a song of eight lines only which the genial Irishman had intended Miss Hardcastle to sing in his comedy "She Stoops to Conquer": but as Mrs Bulkeley, who took the part, was no vocalist, it was omitted. Boswell was determined that it should not be lost, and consequently his letter and the song itself appear in my edition of Goldsmith's poems and plays. It was unworthy of preservation, and so affirmed Croker in his hotch-potch edition of Boswell's "Life of Johnson," and in this solitary instance I agree with the "Talking Potato," as he was facetiously styled by Richard Cumberland, the playwright, on account of the Irishman's loquacity and assumed omniscience in all literary subjects. I quote the song as printed:—

"Ah me! when shall I marry me?
Lovers are plenty but fail to relieve me:
He, fond youth, that could carry me,
Offers to love, but means to deceive me.

"But I will rally and combat the ruiner,
Not a look, not a smile, shall my passion discover,
She that gives all to the false one pursuing her
Makes but a penitent, and loses a lover."

Should not that first line read—"When shall I married be?" or "Who is to marry me?" If that was the colloquial fashion of those days, it seems nonsensical now. It is, to use an auld Scottish phrase, "awfu' style." Boswell got a copy of the song in Goldsmith's handwriting, and was to preserve it in the archives of Auchinleck, but I suppose it has perished long ago with the extinction of the family. A good deal of the venomous sneers at Bozzy by his Croaker is to be imputed to the refusal of the family to allow J. W. C. to ransack the manuscripts and correspondence preserved at their house in Ayrshire. Never was an author more scurvily treated than Boswell is by Croker; but in this he simply pandered to English prejudice. Boswell was a diligent reader of the French memoirs and Frenchana, and he admired the combination of commonplace life with the witty sallies and keen remarks of skilled controversialists, and he determined on imitating the French writers, for there was nothing then in the whole range of English biography that was not dreary and dry-as-dust bunkum. Without his invaluable book, Sam Johnson would be only the name of a dogmatic and overbearing pedant. Boswell gave him immortality, and in return has received from the thankless English public only obloquy, ridicule, and unmerited contempt.

Alba.

An Interesting Letter.

Through the courtesy of Mr John Valentine, 81 High Street, Old Aberdeen, I am able to present to "Notes and Queries" readers a copy of an exceedingly interesting letter addressed to the Lord Provost of Aberdeen 95 years ago. It proceeds:—

Caledonian Asylum Office.
Covent Garden Chambers.
20th March, 1815.

My Lord,

The Noblemen and Gentlemen constituted Officers and Directors of the Caledonian Asylum, in concerting the means of raising a general subscription in Scotland, having resolved to make an appeal to the different Towns in that part of the United Kingdom: as President of the Institution, it becomes my duty to call your Lordship's attention to the printed papers, which will be sent from the office of the Asylum.

under the conviction that nothing will be wanting on your Lordship's part to excite an interest in its favour, and that the result of your exertions will be most satisfactory. As a Record will be kept in the Asylum of the Names of all the subscribers, permit me to request that your Lordship will direct a correct list of them, with their respective designations, to be transmitted to the secretary, that they may be properly entered under the name of the Town in the books of the Institution. In addressing myself to the Chief Magistrate of the distinguished City of Aberdeen, I cannot but express my confident expectation that the liberality of its Corporation and opulent Inhabitants will on this occasion do honour to their wonted public spirit, and afford an example to the whole Empire.

I remain with high regard,

My Lord, yours Sincerely,

[Signed] EDWARD,

Duke of Kent and Strathearn.

To The Lord Provost
of
Aberdeen.

The document is quite authentic, the watermark on the paper being "Gilling and Allford, 1814." It belonged to the late Dr Alexander Walker, who died 10th February, 1903, aged 77 years.

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

Erskine and Montgomery.

In the autobiography of that pedantic knight-errant, Edward Herbert (Lord Cherburg), he states that when acting as a volunteer with the English troops serving under the Prince of Orange at the Siege of Juliers in 1610, he had a quarrel with Theophilus Howard, son of Lord Walden, and a hostile meeting was arranged to take place next morning on horseback. As Herbert had no suitable war-horse for the encounter, he strayed to the Scottish encampment in search of one. He inquired for Sir James Erskine, the commander, who happened to be absent; but his lieutenant (or subordinate officer), named Montgomery, learning the business upon which Herbert was bent, offered to accompany him as second, and brought Sir James Erskine's horse to Herbert, who rode off, after leaving his purse as security for the return of the steed. However, Theophilus, being an astute and canny Englisher, finding that Herbert was not mounted on the sorry nag he had hitherto employed, and being somewhat loth to fight with the choleric Welshman, got it discreetly managed that both parties should be put under arrest. Herbert returned the horse, and received his purse again; but he afterwards was confronted with a message from Erskine either to deny having obtained the loan of the war-horse from him or else to give him the measure of his sword. Herbert accepted the latter alternative, and there would have been another sanguinary duel, instigated by the machinations of Howard, who did not care whether the Scot or the Welshman fell if his own skin was safe. However, Montgomery heard of the projected meeting, interviewed his superior officer, and told him the exact truth. When the ebullient passions of the contestants were allayed, they became friends, and Theo's scheme was shattered into shreds.

Herbert extols Montgomery as a gallant and honourable man. I have frequently cogitated whether this eager Scot was the poet, who was a captain in the household troops at Edinburgh; but I am afraid that he was too old then, although alive, and that it was some cadet of the Eglinton house. If "old age ne'er cooled the Douglas blood," neither did it that of the puissant Montgomeries. The author of "The Cherry and the Slae" was alleged to be dead, in Andro Hart's edition of the poem in 1615. Sir William Mure of Rowallan, who claimed to be his nephew, might have given us the actual date of Montgomery's death, but he did not, and it is a doubtful point: all we know is that he died at Hazelhead, in Ayrshire.

Of the principals concerned in this vivid picture of old manners, it may be added that Erskine had been knighted that year, subsequently was Earl of Buchan, and died in 1639. He was the second son of John Erskine, Earl of Mar, and Lady Mary Stuart, daughter of the Earl of Lennox. Young Erskine was a favourite of James VI. and of his son Charles I., and when he married Mary Douglas, Countess of Buchan in her own right, her husband was created the Earl of Buchan. Howard became Earl of Suffolk, and died in 1640. Herbert died in 1648; and Montgomery probably was one of the settlers in Ulster, as many members of that distinguished family went there, and their descendants are still in Ireland. That is my conjecture.

ALBA.

Curious Relic Found at Kildrummy.

There was lately found, in the course of some improvements made by the Rev. Adam Smith, minister of Towie, on his farm of Chapelton of Kildrummy, a ring, which is evidently a curious piece of antiquity. It is of silver, with a heart upon the outside of it, bearing the initials "M. E." and on the inside is read the legend—"Fear God in heart." The farm takes its name from an old Roman Catholic chapel, and as the ring was found in what appears to have been the site of the chapel, it was probably buried along with some distinguished person—in all likelihood a member of the noble families of Erskine or Elphinstone, to both of which, in ancient times, the lordship of Kildrummy belonged.—"Aberdeen Journal," April 23, 1840.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1878.

January 4. At Arbeadie House, Banchory-Ternan, Mrs Burnett, sen., of Monboddo.

January 13. At 32 Rosemount Place, Aberdeen, William Chrystal of Gateside, aged 72.

January 10. At the Manse, Premnay, Rev. John Wilson, Minister of the parish, in the 86th year of his age and 54th of his ministry.

January 8. At St Vincent, West Indies, David Cowie, Esq. of Colonarie, aged 52, only surviving son of the late Rev. William Cowie, Minister of Cairnie.

January 3. At Cordack, Peterborough, Ontario, in his 71st year, Rev. John Morrice Roger, for forty-two years Presbyterian Minister in Peterborough, second son of the late Rev. John Roger, Minister of Kincardine O'Neil.

January 31. At 17 Albert Street, Aberdeen (suddenly), James Crombie, Goval.

January 29. At 11 Ferryhill Place, Aberdeen, Alexander Macdonald, Advocate, in his 77th year.

January 30. At 62 Springbank Terrace, Aberdeen, Rev. Charles Skene, late Minister of John Knox's Church, Aberdeen.

February 4. At Potterton House, Mrs Allan of Potterton, aged 78.

February 20. At 80 King Street, Aberdeen, James Sim of Cornhill, aged 74.

February 5. At Ganai, N.W.P., India, Donald Daniel MacIver Campbell, Bengal Civil Service, eldest surviving son of the late Very Rev. P. C. Campbell, Principal of the University of Aberdeen, aged 29.

March 11. At Hill of Fiddes, Foveran, John Ruxton, M.D.

March 7. At Balnakettle Schoolhouse, Udny, George Scorgie, for upwards of 50 years teacher there.

March 6. At Beaumont, Jersey, Andrew Leith Hay, third son of the late Rev. William Minty, M.A., Minister of Kennethmont.

March 25. At 12 Mount Street, Aberdeen, suddenly, Rev. Fergus Ferguson, aged 79.

March 21. At Manse of Gartly, Rev. James Thomson, in the 70th year of his age and 35th of his ministry.

March 31. At 39 Park Lane, London, John Gordon, Esq. of Cluny.

March 28. At Malta, Rear-Admiral William Abdy Fellowes Gordon, R.N.

April 3. At Schoolhouse, Tilwhilly, John Robertson, aged 77 years, for upwards of 34 years Schoolmaster there.

April 6. At 48 Skene Terrace, Aberdeen, David Gill of Blairythan, aged 89.

April 20. At 150 Crown Street, Aberdeen, Helen, eldest daughter of the late Alexander More, Collector of Customs, aged 80.

April 21. At Johnston, near Aberdeen, Christina Martha, wife of Alexander Johnston, W.S., and second daughter of the late John Leith Ross, Esq. of Arnage and Bourtie.

May 8. At 15 Crown Street, Miss Mary Grant Turner, aged 78, third daughter of the late Keith Turner, Esq. of Turnerhall.

May 12. At 14 Albyn Place, Aberdeen, Rev. Alexander Leslie, M.A., Minister of Bon-Accord Free Church.

May 16. At 70 High Street, Old Aberdeen, Peter Falconer, Esq.

May 11. At Edingight, Keith, Sir James Milne Innes of Balvenie and Edingight, Bart., aged 70.

May 19. At Summerfield Cottage, Park Road, Aberdeen, Rev. Charles Ogg, Minister of Inverallochy, aged 85.

April 1. At Foochow, China, of sunstroke, David Manson, M.D., fourth son of the late John Manson of Fingask, in his 31st year.

May 18. At Cromarty, Mary, daughter of the late Rev. Alexander Allardyce, Minister of Forgue.

May 31. At 7 Albert Street, Aberdeen, Ann Milne, wife of George Walker, Advocate.

June 3. At 16 Carden Place, Aberdeen, Richard Connon, Shipowner, in his 60th year.

June 4. At Cothal Mills, Jane Crombie, widow of Rev. William Leslie, Minister of Turriff, aged 66.

June 17. At Mapes' Hill House, Elizabeth Caroline, wife of James Gordon Hay of Seaton House, Aberdeenshire, and of Mapes' Hill House, Middlesex.

June 6. At Monkstown, County Cork, Jeannette, Isabella, wife of Carbery Baldwin Egan, and daughter of the late Henry Lumsden of Auchindoir.

June 20. At Haughton, Alford, John, eldest son of John Michell, Esq. of Forcett Park, Yorkshire, and Glassel, Kincardineshire, in his 31st year.

July 8. At 4 Ashley Terrace, Aberdeen, Isabella Dalrymple, aged 86, widow of Rev. William Findlay, Minister of King-Edward.

August 3. At 83 Broad Street, Fraserburgh, Mary Jamson, relict of A. W. Chalmers, Governor of Aberdeen Prison, in her 83rd year.

August 12. At Fraserburgh, George David Wallace, Advocate.

October 3. At Glenbervie House, Mrs Ann Badenach Nicolson of Glenbervie, aged 78.

September 28. At Albyn Cottage, Aberdeen, Elizabeth Mary Duncan Pond, wife of Andrew Murray, jun., Advocate, Aberdeen.

September 17. At Salem, Canada West, Ann Davidson, widow of Alexander Allan, Advocate, late of Aberdeen.

October 11. At Walthamstow, near London, Eliza Fullerton, widow of Hugh Fullerton, Sheriff-Substitute of Kincardineshire, aged 86.

November 6. At 7 Golden Square, Aberdeen, John Angus, Esq., formerly Town Clerk of Aberdeen, aged 79.

November 14. At 89 Crown Street, Christian Abercromby, relict of Alexander Chivas, Advocate, aged 76.

November 20. At Aberdeen, Newell Burnett of Kyllachié, County Clerk of Aberdeenshire, aged 75.

November 24. At Woodside House, George Emsly, of Woodside.

December 19. At Schoolhouse, Glass, Arthur Stephen, aged 72, for forty years parochial schoolmaster.

Queries.

588. Communion Shortbread.—What was the origin of giving shortbread at Communion, and has the practice ceased in the North of Scotland? A well-known author sends me a letter he had received from a friend wherein is given the account of a holiday he had spent in Galloway district in October last. The narrative proceeds—"We drove on Sunday to the Parish Church to Communion. The church stood—for it no longer stands—on a rising near the shore, and from it you see across the Solway, the whole range of the Cumberland hills, and the towns on the coast. The church was old-fashioned, the seats narrow, and uncomfortable. This service was the last that was to be held in it, as funds had been got for a new building. We got tokens from one of the elders standing at the gate of the churchyard, and went in and took a seat at the old Communion table. There was about 100 communicants present, many of whom had travelled six or seven miles. Everything was old-fashioned. There was neither organ nor harmonium, and a precentor with four young girls formed the choir. We had no hymns—nothing but the grand old psalms that touch the very centre of a man's life as no other writings do. We had Shortbread instead of ordinary bread at the Communion, and a member of Parliament acting as elder, if that would add any additional sacredness to the ceremony. It is just 60 years since I had shortbread at the Communion. It was common in Galloway in my youth. The farmers' wives sent butter to the manse some time before the Sacrament—as we then knew it—and the minister took it to the baker, who used it in making the shortbread."

H.

589. A Minister's Daughter who Married a Lord's Son.—In the Register of Testaments of the Commissariot of Aberdeen, under date 29th August, 1751, is recorded the will of Mrs Mary Kennedy, daughter of the deceased Mr John Kennedy, sometime minister at Peterculter, and spouse to John Rollo, second son of Robert, Lord Rollo. What is known of the lady and her husband?

H.

590. David Ochterlony of Tillyfruskie.—What is known as to the forebears and family of Mr Ochterlony?

T. Y.

591. Charles Garston Grainger, Advocate, Aberdeen.—Can any reader oblige me with a note of the surname and parentage of the wife of Mr Grainger. Her name was Isabella, and she died at 19 Wellington Street, Islington, London, 28th March, 1870.

E. D.

Answers.

584. Barony of Pittarrow.—The Barony of Pittarrow embraced in the beginning of last century the lands of Mains of Pittarrow, Westertown, Blackford-house, Stoney Row, Crookyden, with possessions at Whitemire, Auchinzeoch, the meal mill and lands of Conveth, etc., all lying in the parishes of Fordoun and Laurencekirk, and extended to 937 acres.

M.

581. Rev. John Gourlay, Cortachy and Clova.—The "Aberdeen Journal" of 5th April, 1826, bears that Rev. John Gourlay died at the Manse of Cortachy on 27th March, 1826, in his 70th year.

E.

No. 138.—December 9, 1910.

Families of Wood.

To the following account of the families of Wood, notable of old in the Counties of Aberdeen and Kincardine, any additional particulars would be acceptable.

The family of Wood, originally De Bosco, was probably of Norman origin. William De Bosco acted as Clerk to King William the Lion (1165-1214) in his Courts at Forfar, Kinghorn, and Selkirk. This William was Chancellor of Scotland and Bishop of Dunblane. About 1240 Ralph De Bosco was Bishop of Aberdeen, and confirmed a grant of the Church of Aboyne to the Knights Templars. Towards the end of the 13th century the De Boscos gained a footing in the North of Scotland. In course of time the name was changed to Wod or Wood, and as an owner of land in Aberdeenshire there appears the name of Andrew Wod of Overblairton, Belhelvie, in the reign of James III. A grant of the Castlehill and Stocket wood of Aberdeen was made to him by that king; but, being contrary to Robert the Bruce's Charter to Aberdeen, it was revoked by James IV. After the battle of Sauchie, near Stirling, on 18th June, 1488, when James III. was killed, James IV. became king, and on the 26th of June, at Perth, a grant of the lands of Balbegno and of the thanages of Fettercairn and Aberluthnot (Marykirk) was made to "Andro Wod of Overblairton, Belhelvie, and his spouse Mariota Moncreife." His designations were Camerarius, Ballivus, and Receptor or Chamberlain Baillie, and Receiver of the king's rents from the said thanages and from other Crown lands in the County of Aberdeen. He was also collector for the part north of the Forth, of the tax laid on the country by James IV. for the support of his guest Perkin Warbeck; and was paid for his labours. The Barony of Balmain, Fettercairn, was held by the King's "familiar servitor Andro Wod" till 1510, when the same was granted to John Ramsay. In the Burgh Records of Stirling the following entry appears—"March 18th, 1503. Oure sovrane lord ratifyt and approvit ye charter of confirmation and gift maid to Andro Wod ischar of ye chaumer door of ye feu of ye lands and thanedom of ffethirkern and Abirluthnot after ye form of his infefthment maid to him thereuppon." His fee as usher was £13 6s 8d (Scots). The charter of confirmation referred to is a lengthy document written in Latin. Can anyone now tell who were the immediate ancestors of Andrew Wod and Mariota Moncreife? Some writers have held that Wood was the same as the famous Admiral Sir Andrew Wood of Largo. He was not, and I am further convinced from searches made in the Historical Department of the Register House, Edinburgh. They were contemporaries, and probably related as cousins, for the same Christian names Andrew, John, and Walter run in their families. Some carved figures on the walls of Balbegno Castle give colour to this supposition. One of these, a male bust, with the left hand erect, three fingers extended, the face bearded, and the head with cap and morion, may represent Admiral Wood in the attitude of a naval commander. The sculpture may commemorate the great fight in the Firth of Forth, where Sir Andrew and his brothers with two ships captured the three sent by the King of England.

A. C. Cameron, LL.D.

A Scientific Aberdeen Watchmaker.

Among the many famous Aberdeen men of former times may be included George Innes, son of John Innes, farmer, Rubislaw, who, on 7th March, 1808, became indentured to George Angus (father of the late John Angus, advocate and town clerk) to learn the business of clock and watch maker. The apprenticeship was to endure for five years from Candlemas, 1807, the wages being for the first year and ten months at the rate of 4s per week, and for the last three years and two months 5s per week.

Innes early manifested an aptitude for astronomical and scientific research, and although skilful at his business, his heart and soul lay in the former direction. He spent some years at Somerset House, but ill-health obliged him to return to Aberdeen. Before 1820 he succeeded in completing minute Tables of the Tides at various ports, and in the following year was pressed to publish them for the use of the general public. They drew forth encomiums from all parts of the country—Lord Palmerston, Sir Michael Bruce of Scotstown, General Sir Thomas Brisbane, and others writing specially regarding them. Mr Joseph Robertson gives the following in his "Book of Bon-Accord" (p. 13):—

> The Aberdeen Tide-Tables, commenced in 1821, are published annually about the end of November, under the title of "The Aberdeen, Dundee, Leith, and London Tide-Tables." Their author, Mr George Innes, watchmaker and astronomical calculator, Skene Street, is well known as a frequent contributor to the "Philosophical Magazine," the "Edinburgh Philosophical Journal," and some German Periodicals.

In the same work (p. 22) Mr Robertson again draws upon the investigations of Mr Innes:—

> According to Mr George Innes, before-mentioned, the latitude of Aberdeen is 57deg. 8min. 57sec. .8, N, and the longitude, 2deg. 5min. 40sec. .7, W. . . .

The shop of Mr Innes at the foot of Skene Street became a trysting place for leading gentlemen of astronomical tastes, including the Rev. Dr Kidd, Professor Dickie, and Mr Farquharson of Haughton. Many nights were spent at Nigg, or on the house roof, prosecut-

ing investigations, and so infatuated with his subject did Mr Innes become that he frequently went for twenty-four hours without food, and when meals were sent to him he invariably forgot to take them. He was F.R.A.S., and it is disappointing to have to state that a mass of facts which he left in manuscript was destroyed.

Mr Innes was survived by one daughter—Elizabeth—who was married to Captain William Dunningham (son of Thomas Dunningham, of Colchester, who was a warrant officer in the Navy before Waterloo, and saw Napoleon, as a prisoner), whose son, Mr William Dunningham, it is interesting to record, is the head of Messrs William Dunningham and Company, wholesale manufacturing jewellers in Aberdeen, the owners of the business formerly possessed by the father of Sir David Gill, late Astronomer Royal at the Cape.

Aberdeen in Byegone Days.

There has just been published at the "Aberdeen Journal" Office, in handsomely-bound book form (12½ by 10 inches) 'Aberdeen in Byegone Days," being reproductions of the series of 49 plates issued as supplements to the "Aberdeen Weekly Journal" at various dates during the years 1905-10. The Old Bridge of Don has been added to make the selection more complete, and it embraces Aberdeen in 1661; The Town and Harbour in 1775; The City from the South-West, 1825; Torry Farm and Aberdeen in 1850; Aberdeen from Cornhill; The Castlegate a Century Ago; Seaton's View of Castle Street, 1806; Hay's Print of Castle Street, 1840; The Castlehill, 1850; The Cross as Post Office; The Justice Port; the "Bool Road"; The Old Townhouse,; Broad Street and Huxter Row; Broad Street, 1833; Union Street about 1810; Union Bridge (1807) and the Bow "Brig"; The Denburn; The Mutton Brae; The Green; St Nicholas Church; Old Greyfriars Church; The Shiprow; The Old Trades Hall; Market Street; The Schoolhill; George Jamesone's House, Schoolhill; The Old Grammar School; King's College about 1670; Marischal College, 1741-1840; Sir George Skene's Mansion, Guestrow; Provost Robertson's House, Upperkirkgate; "Wallace" Tower; The Weigh-House; Mar's Castle; Ruthrieston Bridge; Bridewell; Rubislaw House; Hirpletillim; Fountainhall House; Gilcomston Dam; Gilcomston Steps; Loch-head; "Split-the-Win'"; St Machar's Cathedral; The Bede House, Old Aberdeen; The Old Aberdeen Grammar School; The Wells; and The Military and Volunteer Review, 1862. The explanatory matter to each plate has been contributed by Mr Robert Anderson, and it is but bare justice to state that his work has been done with a lucidity and accuracy which will be prized alike by the topographer, antiquarian, and general reader. It says much for the "Aberdeen Journal" works and staff that a volume of such excellence can be turned out for sale at the moderate price fixed for each copy—viz., 1s 6d, or in superior binding at 2s 6d.

Inedited Poems by Hogg.

I have the Centenary Edition of the Poetical Works of the Ettrick Shepherd, published by Blackie and Son, Glasgow, and edited by the Rev. T. N. Thomson. As the reverend gentleman died in February, 1869, I do not hold him responsible for the centennial book of 1872, but would assign that job to the late Walter Graham Blackie, who was a versifier himself. The editor affirmed that he had "endeavoured to give a complete collection of Hogg's poems"; but, in my opinion, he failed to do so. The book is certainly a handsome one, and finely illustrated, and the memoir and addenda are all interesting reading; but, on perusal of its contents, I did not see several pieces which I had already in scrap-books and other repositories. I can only account for their omission by supposing that the editor knew not of their existence. He apparently did not ransack the magazines and literary annuals for which Hogg wrote assiduously from 1820 till his death in 1835. If he had done so, I safely predict that he would have found there some of the poet's silver shining amongst the mullock of other workers; and the excuse which might be made that the inedited poems were inferior and unworthy of preservation would be an abortive one—they are all good and worthy of loving remembrance.

Many early effusions are left out, such as his pastoral, "Willie and Katie," published in 1801, and probably it is no great loss; but poems by others which have no right to be there are included in the Centenary Edition—e.g., "The Tweeddale Raid," a Border ballad, by his nephew, Robert Hogg, and the "Epistle to Robert Story" (afterwards minister of Roseneath, and father of the late Principal Story), by Thomas Pringle, which has the premier position in Leitch Ritchie's edition of Pringle's poems (London, 1839). They should have been excluded, and an explanatory note supplied; this is not done, and of course anyone would imagine that Hogg was the writer. In point of fact, at page 366 of Whitelaw's "Book of Scottish Song," a long extract from Pringle's epistle entitled "The Covenanter's Tomb" is ascribed to Hogg.

As a song writer Hogg is only second to the great tohunga (or high priest, using a Maori term) of Scottish minstrelsy, our own immortal Burns; but while Burns's verses have been lovingly gathered and carefully annotated and published, those by the Shepherd have been shamefully neglected; in the Centenary Edition they seem to have been shovelled in anyhow, without any order, and almost entirely destitute of notes or preliminary information. I certainly would like to see an annotated edition of his songs, for, barring Burns, no man did so much for Scottish song as our glorious shepherd bard, and his verses demand loving care and attention from us. The task will soon become a difficult one as the years roll on, and when those having expert knowledge of the theme receive their summons to depart into the Silent Land. Well said Professor Wilson, in a

glowing eulogium on the bard, that "he was the most remarkable man that ever wore the maud of a shepherd," and there will be few to dispute that verdict, even amongst the hypercritical Southrons who usually sneer at our songsters.

A great number of songs from the "Jacobite Relics," which he published in 1819-21, and for which he travelled extensively through the Highlands, are thrust into this edition higgledy-piggledy, entirely ignoring their Gaelic origin. This is very unfair treatment of the early Highland minstrels. Hogg dressed up several of their songs from prose translations which had been given to him, and it is but justice to his memory to state that he made no claim to their authorship—he was simply a paraphrast, attempting to describe in Scottish verse the ruin of the Stuart cause in 1745-46 and the miseries endured by its adherents, as preserved in Gaelic song. The late Professor Blackie, in his book "The Language and Literature of the Scottish Highlands" (1876), acted on the same generous principle, taking no particular praise for his translations; but Hogg's editors have jumbled the story, and blunderingly ascribed his versified transcripts from the Gaelic to be original songs. This is radically and intrinsically wrong; their Celtic sources should be acknowledged. Take the "Hill of Lochiel," it is a version from the Gaelic of John Roy Stuart, who was famous in his day both as soldier and songster, and died an exile in France. "Lenachan's Farewell" is an Appin song, and "Flora Macdonald's Lament" was woven into imperishable verse from notes supplied by Neil Gow. Other songs derived from Celtic originals are—"Farewell to Glenshalloch," "The Frasers in the Corrie," "Welcome to Skye," "Callum-a-Glen," "Cameron's Welcome Hame," "Maclean's Invitation to the Prince," "MacCrimmon's Wail," etc. Many people assisted the Ettrick Shepherd in his researches for lays of the stirring times of 1745, and Highland friends gladly gave him ample store of "copy" for his marvellous powers of versification.

Of the companion volume, Hogg's prose works, I dare not write much, for I have only taken a cursory look at it; but I fail to find in it "The Surpassing Adventures of Allan Gordon," an Aberdeenshire man, amongst the bears at the North Pole (76 pages), which appeared in the first volume of his "Tales and Sketches," 1837. Very likely the book is only a selection of his best prose writings.

I herewith append particulars of twenty-five poems, which, with the exception of one (No. 13), are not to be found in the Centenary Edition of Hogg's Poetical Works. Doubtless, Mr James Sinton could supplement the list with another 25 from his unique stores of reference — "The Spy," and other early publications. "The Royal Jubilee, a Scottish Masque," which Hogg wrote in 1822, on the occasion of the visit of George IV. to Scotland, is not even mentioned, and its poetry, whether good, bad, or indifferent, is absolutely unknown now, therefore, a stray copy of it ought to sell well. Likely enough, the Royal personage did not commend himself to Scottish tastes, and all the adulatory drivel inflicted upon the lieges at that precise time is now deservedly forgotten. Sir Walter Scott's "Carle, now the King's come" was most mercilessly burlesqued and parodied by Alexander Rodger. Of course, Scott got knighted, and Sandy was sent to prison on evidence furnished by his own songs. Such are the peculiar results of the revolutions of fortune's whirligig.

1. Monody on Death of Byron—From Vol. 21 of "Blackwood's Magazine," and it also was printed in the "New Monthly Magazine" (London) in 1825, shortly after Byron's death. Hogg and Byron were correspondents, the Shepherd taking the initiative. The noble bard, despite the deleterious effects of his English training, did not despise the country of his mother, where he had passed his boyhood, and indeed had called himself Gordon instead of Byron. There is strong presumptive evidence that he was actually born in Aberdeen, but, of course, that would be shocking to an English mind. The late George Rennie, printer in Broad Street, had a placard printed and placed over the door of his printing office—"Lord Byron was born in this house." Many a time when a boy have I looked at it. My friend the late Mr George Leslie, bought Rennie's stock-in-trade, and the house has been demolished since; but a strong belief was prevalent that Rennie was right, as Mrs Byron was anxious to return to her own country, having no friends in England. Old Lord Byron used to call the poet "the lame Scotch boy," but when Byron became famous he had to be born in London. However, to resume—After the publication of "The Queen's Wake," Byron made an excursion into Scotland in the summer of 1814 or 1815, and visited Hogg at Altrive or Mount Benger. The mingled shrewdness, simplicity, and manly sincerity of the shepherd poet charmed Byron; they became fast friends, and one warm day they had a swim in St Mary's Loch. Hogg said afterwards that Byron "was sic a fine fallow, he couldna refuse him onything," for it was Byron's proposal. Hogg dedicated his "Pilgrims of the Sun" to Byron, and when any of the latter's poems were published a copy was always sent to the Shepherd. Byron's letters to Hogg were pilfered by some of the Southron tourist fraternity who swarmed about his residence after he had attained celebrity and pestered him with their needless visits, so that he had not time to attend to his duties. See his complaints to Allan Cunningham on that score. Readers may consult "Blackwood's Magazine" for July, 1827 (Noct. Ambr. No. 34), for some account of the Shepherd's natatory abilities. I quote a bit of the Monody:—

Oh, came ye by Dee's winding waters
  That race down the forests of Mar,
Or over the glens of the Gordons,
  And down by the dark Lochnagar?
For there at the fall of the even
  Was heard a wild cry of despair,
As if the sweet seraphs of heaven
  Had mixed with the fiends of the air.

* * * * * *

Spirit of Ossian! cease thy bewailing,
Our sorrows atone not for poor human failing;
But let us rejoice that there is above
A Father of Pity, a great God of Love.

Then hail to his rest
This unparalleled guest,
With songs that pertain to the Land of the Blest;
For stars shall expire,
And the earth roll in fire,
Ere shall perish the strains of his sovereign lyre.

2 Ane Pastorale of the Rocke.—A long poem of ten pages (about 600 lines), contributed to "Blackwood's Magazine" for December, 1827, and dated from Mount Benger, 14th November. Imitation of antique Scotch, purporting to be a stashie between an eagle and a corby, the regal bird being a Tory and the raven a Whig. The fable is well managed, the descriptions of scenery vigorous, and the debate well sustained, winding up with the ludicrous downfall of the Whiggish upstart; but the piece had indubitably a local signification, and that is difficult now to trace.

3. A Hymn to the Devil.—In Vol. 17 of "Blackwood's Magazine."

4. The Witch of the Grey Thorn.—In Vol. 18 of same.

5. Ane Richt Gude and Precious Ballad.—In Vol. 23, ditto.

6. John Graham's Expedition to Heaven.—In Vol. 29, ditto.

7. The Twa Burdies.—A weird ballad of 25 verses, contributed to "Fraser's Magazine." In Maclise's picture group of Fraserian writers, Hogg is conspicuous in his plaid, smoking a cutty-pipe, and sandwiched in between the two Scoto-Canadians, Galt and Dunlop.

8. The Brent-brow'd Lassie o' the Hill.—Very sweet ballad of 13 verses, colloquy between sisters, one of whom has been deserted by her lover. From the "Edinburgh Literary Journal," a very superior literary publication of the twenties of last century, conducted by Henry Glassford Bell, afterwards Sheriff of Glasgow.

9. Love's Jubilee. — From "Literary Souvenir" for 1826, edited by Alaric A. Watts. It is a dialogue between two spirits, and dated as having been written at Altrive Lake on Candlemas Day, 1825. There is likewise in the same book a prose sketch (22 pp.) of Charlie Dinmont, the Border chronicler, with short stories. I do not know if that is included in his prose works—perhaps not, else the other would also have been inserted. From an advertisement eulogising the Souvenir for the year preceding, I learn that Hogg had also written for it; but I have not got that book, yet feel confident, all the same, whatever it was, that it is not in the Centenary Edition.

10. The Auld Man's Wife's Dead.—Song, parody of Patie Birnie's rant, "The auld man's mear's deid." From the "Edin. Lit. Journal."

11. Robin's Awa'.—Elegiac song on Burns, 4 verses. In Motherwell and Hogg's edition of Burns's works, 5 vols., 1836. Both editors died ere the work was finally published.

12. Oh for him back again.—Song written in Burns's birthplace at Alloway. Very fanciful and freakish. From same source as No. 11.

13. The Perills of Wemyng.—First appeared in the "Forest Minstrel" (1813), with the title "May o' the Moril Glen," and as such it appears in collections of ballads; but he re-cast it into antique and uncouth Scotch, it must be confessed, and it accordingly appeared in "Blackwood's Magazine," dated Mount Benger, 5th July, 1827. There are two additional verses near the end. As this version contained Hogg's latest improvements, the Rev. Mr Thomson ought to have alluded to them; but he did not, and therefore I draw attention to it, lest someone else on the hunt for literary "ferlies" might find this mare's nest.

ALBA.

(To be Continued.)

A Forsyth Anecdote.

Here is an anecdote taken down from the lips of a local bookseller who served four years with the late Mr John Rae Smith, bookseller, Union Street, Aberdeen. Smith's shop was the great rendezvous (says my informant) of all the prominent literary and musical aspirants of the city. One of the frequent visitors to his establishment was the late Mr William Forsyth, editor of "The Aberdeen Journal," and a poet of considerable ability. One rainy day he purchased a book, and on the assistant asking him if he would wrap it up in paper, he bluntly replied, "No." "But it will get wet, Mr Forsyth," continued the assistant. After a pause, he thundered out—"Boy! I don't mind carrying a book, but I'll be hanged if I'll carry a parcel." Evidently Mr Forsyth thought it below his dignity to carry a book covered with wrapping paper.

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1879.

January 2. At 11 Golden Square, Aberdeen, Charles Rose of Hazlehead.

January 2. At Redhall, Kincardineshire, John Carnegie of Redhall, in his 74th year.

January 17. At 90 King Street, Aberdeen, Nancy, eldest surviving daughter of the late Andrew Robertson, Sheriff-Substitute of Forfarshire.

January 31. At Aberdeen, George Mortimer, M.A., lately Parochial Schoolmaster, Midmar, aged 84.

January 29. At 19 Rubislaw Terrace, Rev. James Forsyth, D.D., minister of the West Parish, Aberdeen, in the 83rd year of his age and 52nd of his ministry.

February 4. At Migvie House, North Silver Street, Aberdeen, John Macrobin, M.D., Emeritus Professor of Medicine in the University of Aberdeen, aged 74.

February 1. At Eilston, Banchory-Ternan, Mary Millington, widow of Rev. David Martin, minister of Strachan.

February 21. At 31 Holles Street, Dublin, Adeline, wife of Arthur N. Forbes-Gordon of Rayne, captain 79th (Queen's Own) Cameron Highlanders.

March 13. At Perth Station, Dr Ferguson, Cove, aged 60.

March 19. At the Manse, Kincardine O'Neil, Agnes Watson, wife of Rev. George Cook, D.D.

March 27. At 8 Bon-Accord Square, Aberdeen, Lambert Barron, advocate.

March 31. At 4 Dee Street, Aberdeen, Miss Isabella Anderson, daughter of the late Rev. William Anderson, Minister of Strichen, in her 78th year.

April 5. At 50 Pulteney Street, Bath, Rev. William Anderson, Free Church, Cults.

April 24. At 12 Rose Street, in her 90th year, Janet Mitchell, widow of John Cruickshank, LL.D., Professor of Mathematics in Marischal College and University.

May 11. At 7 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh, James Cassie, R.S.A.

May 11. At 38 India Street, Edinburgh, Anne, widow of James Gerrard, Esq. of Midstrath and second daughter of the late Rev. James Simmie, D.D., Minister of Rothiemay.

May 21. At Middlemuir, Belhelvie, Susan, relict of Peter Harvey of Ardo, in her 91st year.

May 28. At her residence, Don Street, Old Aberdeen, in her 98th year, Margaret, relict of Dr Brown and daughter of the late John Paton, Esq. of Grandhome.

June 6. At Manse of Belhelvie, Jane Macnaughton, wife of Rev. William Thomson, in her 60th year.

June 22. At 35 Dee Street, William Forsyth, Esq., late editor of the "Aberdeen Journal."

June 28. At Crichie, Inverurie, Mrs Tait, in her 33rd year.

July 19. At Park House, Aberdeenshire, Alexander John Kinloch, M.D., of Park and Altries, aged 61.

July 30. At 104 Crown Street, Aberdeen, Catherine Dyce, wife of Principal Brown, D.D., and third daughter of the late William Dyce, M.D., Aberdeen.

August 7. At 5 Carden Place, Aberdeen, Rev. David Milne, Minister of Gilcomston Parish, aged 71.

August 6. At Lessendrum, Rev. Maurice George Fenwick Bisset, late Rector of Drumholm and Archdeacon of Raphoe, Ireland, in his 82nd year.

August 19. At Rothes, Rev. George Gray, Minister of Rothes.

August 27. At Grandholm, Lieutenant-Colonel John Paton, aged 61.

August 22. At 41 Albyn Place, John Ferguson, Advocate.

September 14. At 100 Chapel Street, Barbara Oswald, widow of Robert Adam, Advocate, Aberdeen.

September 12. At Auchry House, Edward James Lumsden of Bethelnie.

September 3. Killed at Cabul, during the attack on the British Residency, William Jenkyns, M.A., B.C.S., C.I.E., Secretary to the Embassy there, and eldest son of William Jenkyns, Esq., Inspector of Buildings, Aberdeen.

October 9. At Monykebbock, Newmachar, William Harvey, aged 77.

October 15. At Ferryhill Cottage, Aberdeen, James Abernethy, C.E.

November 6. At 10 Queen's Crescent, Glasgow, Anne Abernethie, daughter of the late Rev. George Pirie, D.D., Minister of the parish of Slains, and widow of Major-General George Munro.

November 23. At 43 Gordon Street, Huntly, George Mellis, ex-Chief Magistrate of Huntly, aged 56.

November 28. At 67 Crown Street, Aberdeen, Mary Craigie, widow of B. Williamson, M.D., in her 83rd year.

December 10. Suddenly, at Union Grove, Aberdeen, James Farquhar Hadden, Esq., aged 70.

December 6. At Manse of Laurencekirk, Jane Green, wife of Rev. Charles Morrison, M.A.

December 18. At Fyvie Castle, William Cosmo Gordon, Esq. of Fyvie, in his 70th year.

December 25. At 33 Bon-Accord Terrace, Aberdeen, Mrs George Davidson (Wellwood).

December 23. At Granite Cottage, Inverurie, suddenly, Alexander Bremner of Glasslaw, aged 72.

December 30. At Larghan, Coupar-Angus, Alexander Morison of Bognie and Frendraught, in Aberdeenshire; and Larghan, in Perthshire.

December 26. At St Andrews, Eliza Mary, third daughter of Archer Irvine Fortescue of Kingcausie.

Queries.

592. John Forbes, Printer, Aberdeen.—To what family did John Forbes belong? Whom did he marry, when did he die, and was he survived by any family?

F.

593. Parish Ministers of Kemnay.—Would a reader conversant with the ecclesiastical history of Kemnay, oblige me with a brief note of the ministers who have held the pastorate since, say, 1600?

Donside.

594. Ludquharn.—I am interested in the old history of this estate, and would be pleased to see some notes upon it and its former proprietors. Would a Buchan historian oblige?

W. Smith.

595. The Lass of Patie's Mill.—What is the real story of the Lass of Patie's Mill? The following appeared in "The Aberdeen Journal" of January 9, 1792:—From the Second Volume of "The Statistical Account of Scotland," it appears that there is likely to be a keen contest among the parishes of Scotland for the honour of having given birth to this famous beauty and the song in which her charms are celebrated. In the account of Galston, a parish in Ayrshire, it is said, there are seven corn mills, one of which is known under the name of "Patie's Mill." The bank of the Irvine on which it is situated, abstracted from the charms of the fair, might well have inspired a poet of less power and sensibility than Ramsay with the sentiments contained in that celebrated pastoral: on the other hand, in the account of Keith-hall, in Aberdeenshire, it is said:—Tradition also speaks of an eminent woman born here, the "Lass of Patie's Mill." Her maiden name was Anderson. A great-grandson of her's, aged 89, and a number of her descendants, reside in this district, and in the parishes of Kinnellor and Dyce. Her father was proprietor of Patie's Mill, in Keith-hall, of Tullikeory in Fintray, and "Standing Stones" in the parish of Dyce. From her beauty, or fortune, or from both causes, she had many admirers: and she was an only child. One, Sangster, Laird of Boddom, in New Machar parish, wished to carry her off, but was discovered by his dog, and very roughly handled by her father, who was called Black John Anderson. In revenge, he wrote an ill-natured song, of which her great-grandson remembers these words:—

"Ye'll tell the gowk that gets her
He gets but my auld sheen."

She was twice married, first to a namesake of her own, who came from the south country, and is said to have composed the song to her praise that is so generally admired, and partakes much of the music which at that time abounded between the Tay and the Tweed. Her second husband was one James George, and she had children by both. Like most other beauties, she was unfortunate. Her father killed a man in the burgh of Inverury, and was obliged to fly to Caithness or Orkney, where his uncle was Bishop. His flight, and the expense of procuring a pardon, ruined the estate. This is the tradition; but perhaps the "Lass of Patie's" may be claimed by as many parishes of Scotland as Homer's birth-place was by the cities of Greece. It is only certain that in this district there was a young woman, heiress of "Patie's Mill," who had been lampooned by a disappointed lover, and praised by a successful one.

W. R.

Answers.

580. Inchbobart.—Mr Bulloch is evidently right in his conjecture that Inchbobart is identical with Inschnabobart. It seems to be implied by the query that the widow of John Gordon left Ruthven on his death in 1855. Such is not the case, however, for Mrs Gordon was in possession of the farm for fully a quarter of a century after her husband's decease, and when she left it the Duke of Richmond and Gordon gave her a yearly allowance. I believe that two of her daughters still survive.

R. D. W.

570. Donald Farquharson, Bandley.—Would "R. D." kindly state whether this Donald Farquharson was identical with Donald Farquharson, younger of Auchriachan, who was a captain in Prince Charlie's army? He is reported to have died about the date mentioned, 1753; but I have been unable to find out the place of his residence after the Rebellion, or the exact date of his death. Where is Bandley?

R. D. W.

562. Lochdhu.—In reply to the query by "M. H. M." I have to state that Lochdhu is near the town of Nairn. I believe the descendants of General William Alexander Gordon still own the small estate. Major William Gordon resided there quite recently, and possibly does so still.

R. D. W.

No. 139.—December 16, 1910.

Cairnwell Road.

The mountain on the west side of the Cairnwell Road is called on the O.S. six-inch map Carn Aosda, ancient mountain—carn, mountain; aosda, ancient. But this must be a mistake for Carn Osde, mountain of the inn—carn, mountain; osde, genitive of osda, inn. Osda has been corrupted into oxster in the name Oxster Burn, and into huxster in the name Huxsterstone, near Kingswells. There may have been an inn there, with a louping-on-stone for helping travellers to their horses. There was also a Huckster Row in Aberdeen, which might have got its name from being near an inn, but perhaps from being a row of houses occupied by hawkers or small retail merchants.

The name Cairnwell is perhaps not what it seems to be. There is, indeed, a well near the road, but wells are not so rare that a main road should be named after a roadside well. In place-names well usually represents the Gaelic word Chaile, a form of baile, farm town. Bhaile is pronounced waile, and final e in names is very liable to be lost. If this etymology is correct, Cairnwell is identical with Cairnton, town on the hill.

John Milne, LL.D.

Inedited Poems by Hogg.

(Continued.)

14. Epistle to T. M. Cunningham.—First appearance in the "Forest Minstrel," an early melange of songs edited by Hogg, to which Mr C. had forwarded a number of very superior lyrics. Hogg's Epistle is in the octo-syllabic measure which had been then popularised by Sir Walter Scott. Thomas Mounsey Cunningham, an engineer, was an elder brother of Allan Cunningham, and predeceased Hogg, dying in London of cholera in 1834. The Shepherd, in his verses, attempts to describe Tam's sensations on being buried in a vast London cemetery "amang unkent fowk," and his consequent bewilderment at the general awakening. Somewhat wild and fantastic, and scarcely a subject for mirth, I presume that is the reason for its exclusion from the Centenary Edition.

15. Farewell to 1829.—Seven verses in racy vernacular contributed to the "Edinburgh Literary Journal." His verses on 1828, which are in the Centenary Edition, are paltry stuff when compared with this graphic sketch:—

Oh! Auchteen hunder an' twanty-nine,
  Thy skaith is past retrievin';
I'm glad to see that back o' thine
  Oot ower the wast gaun skrievin'.

Thou plishy-plashy cauldrife quean,
  Bane o' the farmer's biggin',
De'il that yer tail was rumpit clean,
  Braw curlin' ower yer riggin'.

* * * * * *

In pain we blear'd oor een at morn,
  Glowerin' for sunshine weathor;
Doon cam' the burns, in fury borne,
  Winds, rains, an' a' thegither.
Our houms grew lather ankle-deep,
  Our 'neeps a' bleach'd an' blacken'd;
Our corn laid doon its heid to sleep,
  An' never mair awaukened.

16. Epistle to David Thomson.—The only poem written by Hogg in the "Standard Habbie" jingle. It appeared in the "Edinburgh Literary Journal," already noticed. Thomson was known as "the Galashiels Poet"; he even indited verses to Sir Walter Scott (vide Life of Scott by Lockhart). Hogg and Thomson were great cronies, and when they forgathered, a day's fishing in the Tweed followed, and high jinks in the evening. When stricken in years, Thomson retired into the north of England to a daughter's residence, and died there, year not specified, but about 1840. After allusion to former fishing exploits and lamenting the approach of eild, Hogg asks for some more verses from Davie, and winds up thusly:—

Gin luck attend me nicht or day—
The kind o' luck I'm wont to ha'e—
I'll send ye ower a fish or twae
  When they are kipper'd;
An' mair ye needna look for frae
  The Ettrick Shepherd.

17. Wat o' Buccleugh.—Song in praise of the duke's birthday, 1825. Four verses in the style of Scott's "Hail to the Chief." Quoted in Noct. Ambr.

18. Rejoice, ye Wan an' Wildered Glens.—Another song (five verses) on the same theme. Also quoted in Noct. Ambr.

19. A Shepherd's Life.—Song of five verses, resembling "A Sailor's Life," probably an imitation. Quoted in Noctes Ambr.

20. Tam Neilson.—Nine serio-comic verses. Quoted in Noctes.

21. Assorted Souls.—Humorous classification of types of mankind. From Noct. Ambr. First verse—

There's some souls 'ill yammer an' cheep
  Gin a win'lestrae lie i' their way;
An' some thro' this bricht warld 'ill creep
  As if feart for the licht o' God's day.

This was printed some years ago in a Glasgow newspaper in "Selected Scottish Songs," and another name than Hogg appended as author. I cannot remember the name at present, but he was a plagiarist. Professor Ferrier, in his edition of Wilson's share of the famous Noctes papers, specifically brands items 17 to 21 above —"By Hogg."

22. The Chickens in the Corn.—A droll ballad in Border Scotch, 26 verses, from "Fraser's Magazine" for September, 1835. Hogg died two months afterwards—it might be his last poem. It depicts the baneful effects of jealousy in the mishanter which happened to Jenny Gill.

23. Jock Tait's Expedition to Hell.—Sixty-four verses, from Fraser's Magazine," written at Altrive Lake, 18th August, 1830. An imitation of the elder ballad. Jock, a shepherd lad, musing on his sweetheart's perfidy, falls asleep on the hillside, and dreams of his reception in the nether regions. He is in despair, but is timeously awakened by the barking of his faithful collie. He then effects a reconciliation with the girl, and the last verse significantly affirms:—

An' her wee error wi' the laird
Was a' forgotten free,
An' I was at their weddin' yestre'en,
An' ane merry nicht had we.

24. Curling Song.—"Scotland's guid auld channel-stane," the only song by Hogg in "Whistlebinkie." There is a daft conceit in this effusion, peculiarly indicative of his luxuriant fancy:—

Were I a sprite in yonder sky,
An' never to come back again,
I'd sweep the moon and' starlets by,
An' beat them at the Channel-stane.

We'd boom across the Milky Way,
One tee should be the Northern Wain,
Another, bright Orion's ray—
A Comet for a Channel-stane!

25. Verses on Delta's Birthday.—First appeared in Thomas Aird's "Selections from the Poems of D. M. Moir," 2 vols., 1852. Delta was born on 5th January, 1798, but in what year he received this graceful poetical tribute from the Ettrick Shepherd is not disclosed. Moir in youth was a striking personality, handsome as Apollo, with beautiful and expressive features; of warm affections and exuberant fancy, he was a general favourite. Hogg recognised his ability at once from the innumerable poems, grave and gay, which appeared in "Blackwood" with the Greek letter Delta attached to them; and with this warm tribute of affection for his friend, and kindly appreciation of one poet for another, which is not so well known as it ought to be, I close my list:—

DELTA'S BIRTHDAY, 5TH JANUARY.

The infant year with clouds was crown'd,
And storms defaced the early morn,
While hoarse the tempest growl'd around
As thou, the Child of Song, was born.

The blood-red sun, with brazen rim,
Scowl'd angry o'er the eastern main:
The wild blast sang thy cradle hymn
As it swept along the wintry plain.

What thoughts were thine when first thy ear
Did list this music of the sky?
Did thy young bosom shrink with fear,
And tremble as the storm went by?

'Tis said—and gossips tell the tale,
Which to deny were mortal wrong—
Upon the world thy infant wail
Came piping in a note of song!

I have not specified the bits of verse, fragments of ballads, snatches of song, etc., in the "Brownie o' Bodsbeck," or the antique ballad chant, entitled "The Herone," in "The Bridal of Polmood," although they might have been included in his poetical works. Every scrap of verse, even the fictitious mottoes from the "Old Play" in Scott's novels, are reproduced in Black's edition of Scott's Poetical Works, and a similar course might with advantage have been adopted with Hogg's collected poems.

ALBA.

Melbourne, Australia.

United Free Church College Portraits.

The following portraits are hung in the Students' Dining Hall:—

(1) Archibald Simpson, architect. Painted by James Giles, R.S.A., engraved by Edwd. M'Innes; published by Messrs Gifford and Mair, Aberdeen, August 1st, 1849.

Archibald Simpson, born at 15 Guestrow, and educated at the Grammar School and Marischal College, was the youngest son of William Simpson, merchant in Aberdeen (died 9th August, 1804, aged 64), and his wife, Barbara Dauney (died 17th October, 1801, aged 50). He was an architect of eminence, and planned a large number of Aberdeen public buildings and several county gentlemen's seats. He was the architect of Marischal College, and his name is inscribed on the brass plate on the foundation-stone of that building. His portrait, by Giles, was presented to Aberdeen University in 1906 by Miss Anne Hamilton Cruickshank, daughter of Professor John Cruickshank (E.A.'s Guide to Marischal College Buildings). A number of Simpson's drawings, elevations, etc., were exhibited 7th November, 1906, in connection with the recently formed Northern Arts Club, Aberdeen. ("'Aberdeen Journal' Notes and Queries," Vol. I., 168-169.) On a flat polished granite stone in St Nicholas Church-

yard, Aberdeen, there is inscribed the simple epitaph—

In memory of Archibald Simpson, late architect, Aberdeen.

The date of death—23rd March, 1847, aged 57 years—is recorded on a tablestone adjoining, below which ancestors and connections of his are buried. There is also another stone to members of the Simpson family on the extreme left.

Perhaps the most sympathetic memoir on Mr Simpson is that preserved in the Select Writings of John Ramsay, M.A. (Aberdeen; 1871), wherein is the following paragraph—"The monuments of his genius, skill, and taste will long survive both him and them!"

"Genius, and taste, and talent gone—
For ever tombed beneath the stone!"—Scott.

James W. Giles, R.S.A., who painted Simpson's portrait, was born 1801, and died 6th October, 1870, being buried in Oldmachar Churchyard. (See "Aberdeen Town Hall Armorial Bearings," pp. 67-68; "Morgan's Annals of Woodside and Newhills," pp. 238-239; and "Scottish Notes and Queries," 1st Series, Vol. X., p. 9.)

The following baptisms of children of Mr Giles by his wife, Clementina Farquharson, are recorded in St Andrew's Church Registers:—Aberdeen—Edward, 11th March, 1828; Hugh Irvine, 3rd May, 1830; John Gordon, 24th October, 1832; and Emma, 2nd October, 1835.

(2) The Rev. Alexander D[yce] Davidson. Painted by William Bonnar, R.S.A., engraved by William and Thomas Bonnar. Edinburgh: 28 London Street, published 11th April, 1846. Printed by A. M'Glashon.

A tablet erected to the memory of the Rev. Mr Davidson in the vestibule of the West United Free Church, Aberdeen, has already been referred to. He wrote a preface to the "Lectures and Sermons" of his friend, James M'Lagan, D.D., late Free Church Professor of Divinity; published at Aberdeen 1853.

(3) The Rev. James Foote. Painted by William Bonnar, R.S.A., engraved by William and Thomas Bonnar. Edinburgh: 28 London Street, published 17th April, 1846. Printed by A. M'Glashon.

The Rev. James Foote was the son of the Rev. Robert Foote (died July 1, 1809) and Jane Smith, who died in 1842 ("Jervise's Epitaphs," I., 253). He was born at Fettercairn, and died at Banchory-Ternan. His wife, a native of Montrose, died at 14 Golden Square, Aberdeen. A handsome wall monument in Nellfield Cemetery, Aberdeen, is inscribed—

Sacred to the memory of Rvd. James Foote, D.D., minister of the Free East Church, Aberdeen, born 31 August, 1781, died 25 June, 1856. Erected by his grateful and sorrowing flock. Here is also interred Christian Aberdein, his wife, born 15 April, 1777, died 26 February, 1868.

William Bonnar, R.S.A., was born in Edinburgh 1800, and died there 1853. In early life he followed his father's occupation of a house painter and decorator; but about 1824 turned his attention to painting, which he pursued with success. It may be noted that several of his figure-subjects and portraits have been engraved. See Caw's "Catalogue of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery," p. 233.

(4) Rev. Alexander Duff, D.D. Painted by James Faed, R.S.A., engraved by James Faed Nov., 1851, published by James Keith, 60 Princes Street, Edinburgh; printed by M'Glashon and Wilding.

Rev. Alexander Duff, D.D., born at Auchnahyle, 25th April, 1806, was the son of James Duff and his wife, Jean Rattray. He was educated at Kirkmichael, Perth, and St Andrews. He was sent out by the Church of Scotland as its first Indian Missionary, and he edited the "Calcutta Review" for a number of years. Joining the Free Church, he was appointed Moderator of the Assembly of that Church in 1851, and again in 1873. Dr Duff, who was married and had issue, died at Sidmouth, 12th February, 1878. Portraits at the age of 30 and 60 are given in Dr George Smith's Life of him in two volumes published by the Messrs Holder and Stoughton, London, 1878. There is a bust by John Hutchison, R.S.A., in the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Edinburgh. Irving's "Dictionary of Eminent Scotsmen" makes reference to him at page 112.

(5) Rev. Robert Smith Candlish, D.D. Painted by W[illiam] Bonnar, R.S.A., engraved by William and Thomas Bonnar. Edinburgh: 28 London Street, published February 12th, 1845; printed by A. M'Glashon.

Rev. Robert Smith Candlish, D.D., Free Church Leader, was the youngest son of James Candlish, A.M., Teacher of Medicine at Edinburgh (born at Dalrymple, 1760, died 29th April, 1806), and his wife, Jane Smith (died 20th January, 1854, aged 86), who was one of the "Mauchline belles" celebrated by the poet Robert Burns, who said of her, "Miss Smith, she has wit." He was never sent to school, says his biographer, but was sent to the University of Glasgow in his thirteenth year, graduating Master of Arts in 1823. He entered upon his studies in the Divinity Hall, 1823-24; and was for some time a private tutor at Eton. Licensed by the Presbytery of Glasgow, 6th Aug., 1828, he became assistant in St Andrew's Church, Glasgow, to Rev. Dr David Gibb. The death of Dr Gibb in June, 1831, brought to an end his engagement, and in the same year he became assistant to Mr M'Gregor, minister of Bonhill. In 1834 he became assistant, and latterly successor (ordained 17th August, 1834), to Mr Martin, minister of St George's, Edinburgh. He married at Renfrew, 6th January, 1835, Janet, daughter of Walter Brock. In the controversy which led up to the Disruption of 1843, he took an active part, by his attitude forfeiting an appointment to the newly instituted Chair of Biblical Criticism in Edinburgh University. He became Moderator of the Assembly in 1851. Next year he was appointed Principal of the New College, Edinburgh. He continued to take great interest in the affairs of the Assembly, etc., until his death, which took place on 19th October, 1873. His remains were interred in the Old Calton Burying-Ground, Edin-

burgh, where a tombstone bears the following inscription:—

James Candlish, A.M., Teacher of Medicine, Edinburgh, died 29th April, 1806, aged 46 years. Jane Smith, his widow, died 20th January, 1854, aged 86. Janet, their daughter, died 12th March, 1797, aged 9 months; Janet Smith, their daughter, died 12th February, 1803, aged 2 years; Henry, their son, died 24th April, 1805, aged 6 months; Jane Smith, their daughter, died in Glasgow, 23d May, 1827, aged 30 years, buried at High Church, Glasgow; Eliza L. Smith, their daughter, died 1st January, 1867, aged 67. Walter, son of R. S. Candlish, D.D., Edinburgh, died 20th February, 1840, aged 6 months; Jane Smith, his daughter, died 30th March, 1840, aged 1 year 9 months; Agnes, his daughter, died 24th April, 1845, aged 2 years 9 months; Mary Ross, his daughter, died 30th September, 1866, aged 15 years 3 months. Robert S. Candlish, born 23d March, 1806; died 19th October, 1873.

Professor Candlish's eldest daughter, Jessie, married William Anderson, jun., of Glentarkie (Scott's "Fasti," 75); Mary Ross, the youngest daughter, died at Elie (Candlish's "Memorials," 545). There was also a daughter who became a Mrs Henderson, with issue. The eldest son, James Smith Candlish, born 14th December, 1835, became assistant to Dr Henderson in St Enoch's Free Church, Glasgow. Ordained in 1863 as minister of Logiealmond, he was from 1869 to 1872 minister of the East United Free Church, Aberdeen. In the last named year he was appointed Professor of Systematic Theology in the Free Church College, Glasgow; and died 1897. He married Ann Elizabeth Simpson, daughter of Rev. Robert Simpson, D.D., Free Church, Kintore, and his wife, Harriet Mary Brown. A son, R. S. Candlish, M.A., is a probationer of the United Free Church ("Scottish Church and University Almanac," 1910, p. 149).

It is interesting to mention that there is a bust of Dr Candlish by Mr William Brodie in the entrance of St George's Church, Edinburgh. The "Memorials of Robert Smith Candlish, D.D." by William Wilson, D.D., and Robert Rainy, D.D., published by Messrs Adam and Charles Black, Edinburgh, 1880, contain all the information that can be put on record regarding his personality—early training—habits of life—correspondence—and public transactions. In 1874 Messrs Adam and Charles Black, Edinburgh, published for Dr Alexander Beith, of Stirling, a volume entitled "A Highland Tour: Three Weeks with Dr Candlish." In addition to many sermons and lectures, Dr Candlish wrote "Contributions towards the Exposition of the Book of Genesis," "Life in a Risen Saviour," "The Fatherhood of God," "Scripture Characters," and "Miscellanies." See "Irving's Dictionary of Eminent Scotsmen," p. 62, and "Dictionary of National Biography," Vol. VIII., pp. 405-408, for biography signed "W. G. B." [Dr William Garden Blaikie].

(To be Continued.)

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1880.

January 5. At Viewfield House, Merchiston, Edinburgh, George Gibb Shirra Gibb of Cults, Aberdeenshire, in his 69th year.

January 6. At 18 Greenhill Place, Edinburgh, Helen B. Innes, widow of Captain Thomas Shepherd, H.E.I.C.S., late of Kirkville, Aberdeenshire.

January 13. At Sunnybank, Aberdeen, Alexander Stronach of Drumallan, Advocate, aged 87.

January 15. At Haddo, by Huntly, John Forbes of Haddo, aged 85.

January 27. At 53 Wellington Street, John Duthie, Shipbuilder, in his 89th year.

January 22. At Haughton, Mary Sarah Leith, wife of Robert Francis Ogilvie Farquharson, Esq. of Haughton, aged 51.

January 31. At the University, Old Aberdeen, David Thomson, M.A., Professor of Natural Philosophy.

February 4. At 6 Crown Terrace, Aberdeen, Alexander Burnett Whyte of Dalhebity, aged 69.

February 4. At the Manse, Kinneff, Margaret Moir Smith, wife of Rev. William Mearns, D.D., Minister of Kinneff, aged 71.

February 1. At Tillyfour, William M'Combie, Esq. of Tillyfour, aged 75.

February 17. At Manse of Foveran, Rev. William Murray Keay, A.M., Minister of Foveran.

February 25. At 154 Union Street, David Fiddes, M.D.

February 23. At Rosebank, William Smith, Grain Merchant, aged 55.

March 4. At Warthill House, William Leslie, Esq. of Warthill, in his 66th year.

March 10. At Auchinblae, Robert Henry, M.A., late Parochial Teacher, Glenbervie, aged 79.

March 23. At 5 Balmoral Terrace, Aberdeen, Rev. Alexander Gerard, LL.D., in his 69th year.

March 17. At South Erins, Argyllshire, Mrs Crawford Gordon, widow of William Forlong, Esq. of Erins, and daughter of the late Lieutenant-General Gordon of Pitlurg, aged 92.

March 27. At 86½ Crown Street, Charles Winchester, Esq., Advocate, in his 100th year.

April 2. At 62 Carden Place, Catherine Fraser, wife of the Right Rev. Thomas George Suther, Bishop of Aberdeen and Orkney.

April 4. At Manse of Marnoch, Rev. A. Anderson, Minister of that parish, in his 69th year.

April 7. At North of Scotland Bank, Inverurie, James Davidson, in his 69th year.

April 16. At Paris, Mary Jane Forbes, widow of John Gregson of Bramham House, Yorkshire, and Burdon, County Durham, and daughter of the late Robert Grant of Tillyfour.

May 5. At Murtle House, Alexander Nicol, in his 68th year.

May 11. At 9 Huntly Street, Mrs Jane Shand Cordiner or Rainy, last surviving daughter of the late Rev. James Cordiner, of St Paul's Episcopal Church, Aberdeen, and widow of Dr George Rainy, Aberdeen.

May 17. At the Manse, Rothiemay, Rev. Robert Moir, M.A., aged 78.

May 22. At the Manse, Kincardine O'Neil, Rev. George Cook, D.D., minister of the parish.

May 28. Suddenly, at Aberdeen, Hugh Ross, of Oakbank, Cults, aged 70.

May 28. At 4 Union Street, Margaret Simpson, widow of Rev. James Forsyth, D.D., Minister of West Parish, Aberdeen.

June 11. At 34 Albert Street, Bella Collie, wife of James Collie Smith, Solicitor, in her 36th year.

June 12. At 52 Skene Terrace, Susan Watt, widow of Rev. Gavin Parker, in her 83rd year.

June 14. At Foveran House, suddenly, Alexander Johnston, Esq., W.S., aged 71.

June 24. At the Cottage, Longside, Nathaniel Lawrence, M.R.C.S., in his 80th year.

June 30. At Canaan Grove, Morningside, Edinburgh, Rev. William M'Gilvray, D.D. (Free Gilcomston, Aberdeen).

July 18. At 22 Mansfield Street, Portland Place, London, suddenly, the Right Hon. Francis Alexander, Earl of Kintore, Lord-Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire, in his 53rd year.

July 18. At Sunnyside, Fyvie, Alexander Fiddes Greig, M.R.C.S., Eng., in his 65th year.

July 23. At Ardlethen, Ellon, Thomas Garland, senior, aged 75.

August 18. At Aberdeen, William Matthews, jun., of Polmuir, aged 77.

August 24. At Springfield, Peterhead, Alexander Hutchison, yr., of Cocklaw, in his 54th year.

August 5. At Toronto, May Agnes, widow of George Wilson, formerly of Glasgoego, and second daughter of the late William Dyce, M.D., Aberdeen.

August 30. At 13 North Silver Street, Alexander Forbes, M.D.

August 25. At Angell Park Gardens, Brixton, in his 90th year, Charles Copland, A.M., son of the late Professor Copland, LL.D., Marischal College, Aberdeen.

September 8. At Cairnlee Cottage, Bieldside, Mary Frances Gibb, wife of James Corbet, late H.E.I.C.'s Bengal Medical Service.

September 10. At 114 King Street, James Simpson, M.D., H.M.I.M.S., aged 28.

September 15. At Ayr, Mary Frances, widow of Patrick Boyle, Esq. of Shewalton, Ayrshire, and daughter of the late Sir Robert Dalrymple Horn Elphinstone, Bart., of Horn and Logie-Elphinstone, aged 71.

September 29. At Bay's Hill Lawn, Cheltenham, Mary Harriett, widow of Alexander Crombie, Esq. of Thornton, aged 71.

? ? Drowned while bathing at Kanan-babby, South Coorg, Madras, Alexander Gray, aged 24, son of Rev. Mr Gray, of Auchterless.

October 13. At Banchory Lodge, Anne, widow of Lieutenant-Colonel William Burnett Ramsay of Banchory Lodge, aged 55.

October 17. At Moreseat, Cruden, James Johnstone, Esq. of Moreseat, aged 88.

October 24. At 17 Union Place, Lewis Smith, Bookseller, in his 77th year.

October 24. At 34 Porchester Square, London, Eliza, only daughter of the late James Forbes Beattie, C.E., Aberdeen.

November 5. At the Schoolhouse, Aberdour, Rev. James Leith Ironside, Schoolmaster, aged 57.

September 28. At Williamstown, Victoria, Marion M'Caskil, wife of James Inglis, Esq., third daughter of the late William Maegillivray, M.A., LL.D., Regius Professor of Natural History, Marischal College and University, Aberdeen.

November 14. At All Saints', Woodhead, Fyvie, the Very Rev. David Wilson, M.A., in his 76th year.

November 20. At Turtory House, Banffshire, Mrs Isabella Milne of Pitglassie, widow of the late Rev. James Milne, Minister of Inverkeithney, aged 84.

December 1. At 37 Union Place, John Geddes, M.D., aged 78.

December 1. At Elgin, Rev. John Bremner, Minister of Glenbucket.

December 8. At 4 Lancaster Gate, London, Duncan Davidson, Esq. of Tillychetly, and late of H.M.'s Bombay Civil Service, in his 67th year.

December 21. At Highgate, London, Catherine Lumsden Malcolm, widow of the late Alexander Simpson, M.D., Surgeon-Major, H.M. Indian Army, and daughter of the late Rev. William Malcolm, Minister of Leochel-Cushnie.

Queries.

596. Particulars of Old Inn Wanted.—Is anything known of a farm town with an inn at it on the north side of the Grampians near the road leading from Braemar to Blairgowrie?

John Milne.

597. A Gordon Descendant of the Pretender.—The "Aberdeen Journal" of 22nd June, 1842, has the following in its Obituary column:—"Here, on the 9th inst., John Stewart Gordon, Esq. of Mosstown, a descendant of Prince Charles Edward Stewart, commonly called the Pretender." Can any reader explain where the alleged descent came in?

A. B.

598. Two Mile Cross.—Can anyone say the date of the obliteration of this old place?

R. R.

599. Pictures by James W. Giles, R.S.A.—I am in the course of preparing a memoir of James W. Giles and his paintings, and should be pleased to learn who now possesses his pictures "Lochnagar, looking up Glen Glender," and "No Surrender."

R. G.

Answers.

585. Lord and Lady Braco.—The Queen Regent, Caroline, by patent dated 23th July, 1735, advanced William Duff (only son of William Duff of Dipple, and his wife, Helen, daughter of Sir George Gordon of Edinglassie) to the peerage of Ireland, as Baron Braco of Kilbryde, and by patent, dated 16th April, 1759, he was elevated to a viscountcy and earldom by the titles of Viscount Macduff and Earl Fife. Duff married first Jane Ogilvie, daughter of James, Earl of Findlater and Seafield, who died 1772, and secondly Jane, daughter of Sir James Grant, Bart. of Grant. The titles Lord and Lady Braco would have applied for 34 years only.

B.

587. "Lindsay's Folly."—The house and small piece of ground adjoining stood on the west side of the road leading to Old Aberdeen. In 1772 the property belonged to Thomas Simson, wright in Spittal, who, I believe, paid £30 stg. of purchase price.

A. B.

592. John Forbes, Printer, Aberdeen.—Forbes died in November, 1704, survived by his wife, Margaret Cuthbert, who died in July, 1710, and at least one daughter, Jean, who died in February, 1718.

G. G.

No. 140.—December 23, 1910.

Delitiæ Poetarum Scotorum.

In 1903 I inspected for the first time at the Edinburgh Public Library the two volumes of Latin poetry written by Scotsmen, prepared for publication by Sir John Scot of Scotstarvet, Fifeshire, and printed by Jan Jansen Blaeu at Amsterdam in 1637. They were companion volumes to the "Delitiæ Poetarum Italorum" of 1608 and the "Delitiæ Poetarum Germanorum" of 1612. There had been no signs of any "D. P. Anglorum," owing possibly to paucity of materials or unwillingness to incur the trouble of collection and expenses of printing; but, at anyrate, Sir John Scot patriotically determined on printing a selection of the Latin poetry of his countrymen since Buchanan's time, and he corresponded with the Dutch printer who had executed the works of the Italian and German Latinists, for a similar edition of the Latin poets of Scotland. He likewise visited Blaeu in his printing office, arranged for the publication, and furnished the copy. As Arthur Johnston wrote the foreword to the book, and monopolised the half of the first volume, many people imagine that he was the editor, employed to supervise the undertaking; but this is a mistake. Likely enough he assisted and advised, and would be deeply interested in the project; but the knight was too arbitrary an individual to submit to any leadership in the transaction. It was his idea, he selected the poets, corrected the proofs, and paid the printer. He states so explicitly, and he must have been in communication with many Scoto-Latin poets, for there is a volume of such correspondence in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh.

There were 37 authors altogether, and the books appeared in 1637, a curious coincidence. Scot had ample materials for other two volumes. It is a great pity that he did not give us brief biographies of the authors—a few dates would have been invaluable to us now; but none were given, and so we are left to conjecture or to contemporary accounts for notices of the authors. About 20 of them are well known in our literary history, and require no special comment; but of the remaining 17 very meagre details exist, and of some of them only their names. I think it would be an excellent task for a young Scot of literary bias to translate the best of the poems, and give some memoranda of the writers. Our Caledonian Crœsus, Andrew Carnegie, might allot a sum of money for the purpose, whereby he would earn everlasting fame for both himself and his country.

Aberdeen is well represented in the D.P.S., having six poets in the ring—viz., Arthur and John Johnston, William Barclay, Thomas Dempster, A. Rosse, and D. Wedderburn—thus leaving 31 to be distributed amongst the other 32 Scottish counties.

It is somewhat significant that at the time of publication, 1637, only eight of the writers were alive—Sir John Scot, who outlived all his contemporaries, dying, aged 84, in 1670: his coadjutor, Arthur Johnston, died in 1641—his poems, with prose translations, two volumes, edited by the late Sir W. D. Geddes, for the New Spalding Club. "Musa Latina Aberdonensis," being a monumental work of surpassing interest and splendid scholarship; David Wedderburn, his friend, died in 1646: Alexander Rosse, of Southampton School, died in 1654: Andrew Ramsay died in 1659, and Ayton in 1638. David Echlin and John Rose were both alive, in the last-mentioned year, but how long they lived thereafter is unknown.

Beyond occasional glimpses in foot-notes and crumbs of desultory gossip in antique repositories, I confess that my knowledge of Sir John Scot and his laudable schemes for the honour of his native country, is mainly derived from the late Professor Masson's delightful "Life of Drummond of Hawthornden," 1873. Under date of 1637, he depicts the D.P.S. and its authors, "whose dust lies long scattered and untraceable now in Scottish and foreign earth: all the more reason that the mere names of the glorious 37 should not be allowed to perish." Precisely so: all true Scots (not the Anglified abortions, of course) will heartily reciprocate those glowing words.

Sir John Scot has hitherto been a neglected Scot, and is chiefly portrayed as a sour and snarling cynic from his posthumous work, "The Staggering State of Scots Statesmen," first published by Ruddiman in 1754, 84 years after the author's decease. He was born in 1585, educated at St Andrews University, trained to the law, and succeeded his father as director of the Scottish Chancery, holding the position for 40 years, likewise a Lord of the Justiciary Court. Knighted by James VI. in 1617, he married the sister of Drummond, the poet, in 1609, and was thus an intimate friend. It was at his Fifeshire residence, Tarvet, about 1640, that Drummond wrote his laughable Macaronic poem, "Polemo-Middinia" (the Midden Fecht), descriptive of a stramash between Sir John's tenants and those of the adjoining estate of New Barns.

Despite the intestinal afflictions of Scotland during the Civil War and Cromwell's usurpation (by Cromwell he was heavily fined), Sir John gathered gear, and acquired much landed property, which he left unencumbered to his descendants. He was likewise the projector of the Scottish Atlas, and engaged Timothy Pont, and subsequently Gordon of Straloch, to finish the work, which was published in 1654 by the Dutchman Blaeu, who, in a Latin preface, states —"If you impute this work to that most noble and munificent man John Scot of Scotstarvet, you will but attribute the progeny to its rightful father"; and furthermore, he adds—"He

passed whole days in my house, writing and dictating what might illustrate the maps of his country, with such happiness of memory that, though without papers or books, he gave all due information respecting the shapes of districts, sites, boundaries, old and more recent owners of estates, the produce of the soil, cities, rivers, and the like, so that the man appeared to me to be a Scotland to himself."

Why, the man was a national benefactor, but has never received a tithe of the credit he deservedly earned. When he died in 1670 he left his mark on Scottish history in the publication of the D.P.S. and the Atlas, both of which would never have come to accomplishment but for his energy and liberality.

In order to show that Sir John Scot possessed the art of framing pithy and pregnant verse, I quote a translation by Drummond of a Latin sonnet on the phases of human life—

Quod Vitæ Sectabor Iter.

What course of life should wretched mortals take?
In books hard questions large contention make.
Care dwells in houses, labour in the field,
Tumultuous seas affrighting dangers yield;
In foreign lands thou never canst be blest,
If rich thou art in fear, if poor distress'd.
In wedlock frequent discontentments swell,
Unmarried persons as in deserts dwell.
How many troubles are with children born.
Yet he that wants them counts himself forlorn.
Young men are wanton and of wisdom void;
Grey hairs are cold, unfit to be employ'd.
Who would not one of those two offers try—
Not to be born, or being born, to die?

JOHN SCOT.

The "glorious 37," as Masson terms them, were—P. Adamson, Ayton, J. and W. Barclay, M. A. and R. Boyd, Sir T. Craig, J. Crichton, Dempster, Hume of Godscroit, A. and J. Johnston, A. Melville, Maitland, Murray, Lord Thirlestane, Reid, Ross, Ramsay, Sir John Scot, Thomson, Willison, and Wedderburn, of all of whom we have sufficient information. The others not so well known were—H. Anderson, G. Crichton, Danskin, Echlin, Goldman, Halkerston, Kinloch, M'Culloch, King Rose, Rollock, another John Scot, Leggat, and Strachan.

Of Latinists omitted from this national treasury of song we miss Sir Thomas Hope, John Adamson, Adam Blackwood, John Dunbar, John and David Leitch, James Kidd, William Hegate, Adam Abernethy, William Bellenden, and Patrick Panter. They had all published Latin poetry prior to 1637, and the exclusion of some of them suggests antipathy of the knight towards the writers.

During a long course of miscellaneous reading and raking amongst musty records of the past, I have gleaned a few items concerning the obscure and lesser known contributors to the "Deliriæ Poetarum Scotorum," as well as some points upon the lives of the more prominent ones, and I subjoin the same, promising that it is simply an instalment, as more will follow. It is a big job, and one not capable of being finished in a single paper. Perhaps another and resident correspondent may help to enlighten the dense darkness of over 270 years, and give us tidings of our vanished scholars. Meanwhile I annex the first batch:—

Henry Anderson.—A worthy citizen of Perth, related to the Adamson family, of whom John and Patrick Adamson were the most notable. He studied at St Andrews (where he took his degree of M.A.) and likewise at the University of Padua. Returned to Scotland, made a magistrate in 1611, and acquired landed property. When King James VI. revisited Scotland in 1617, after an absence of 14 years, he was welcomed with addresses and poems in divers languages, which were afterwards gathered by John Adamson, and published in 1618, entitled "The Muses' Welcome to King James." Anderson was one of the writers. He lived to be an aged man, and died about 1630

Sir Robert Ayton.—Fifeshire gentleman, born at Kinaldie in 1576, educated at the Universities of St Andrews and Paris, appointed secretary to Anne of Denmark (Consort of James VI.), and subsequently to Henrietta Maria of France, Consort of Charles I.; likewise Master of Requests and Ceremonies. Died in Whitehall Palace, London, in March, 1638, aged 68. His monument, with medallion portrait, erected by his nephew, John Ayton of Kinaldie, is still to be seen in Westminster Abbey. His English poems, edited by David Laing, are in the first volume of the Bannatyne Miscellany. His Latin poems in the D.P.S. were reprinted in 1844 by Charles Roger, then aged 19, and dedicated to the illustrious bibliophile, David Irving, and it is very instructive to observe that C. R. did not dare to add a final "s" to his surname then, as his father was still alive, and would have keenly resented the useless change. Roger, on very flimsy evidence, ascribes the two sets of "Auld Lang Syne" to Sir Robert, for some boy had transcribed the lines in the MS. which Roger had purchased. The second part may be Ayton's, but the first is by "Anon," a very elusive personality indeed. The principal Latin poems are epistles to King James and to James Hay, afterwards Earl of Carlisle. Alexander Craig, a Banffshire poet (died 1624) and fellow-student, punningly and rather happily styled the knight in a sonnet as Æthon, the courser of Apollo, and Ayton replied in two complimentary sonnets on Craig's poems.

ALBA.

Melbourne.

(To be Continued.)

John Gordon, Elgin.

It sometimes happened that the northern Gordons got associated with the southern Gordons, or, at least, with the people in the lands in the south chiefly connected with the family. A case

occurs in Agnes Gordon, daughter of the late John Gordon, burgess of Elgin. On January 18, 1653, there was registered a bond for £287 Scots by Adam M'Ghie, Provost of Wigton, and Thomas Stewart, late Provost thereof. (M'Kenzie Office Register of Deeds, Vol. 17). The deal was probably effected by George Gordon, Kintyre Pursuivant, who is believed to have been an Elgin man.

J. M. B.

Aberdeen United Free Church College Portraits.

(Continued.)

(5.) The Rev. Dr Thomas Chalmers in the attitude of writing.

This is a photographic reproduction, after a painting by Thomas Duncan, R.S.A., A.R.A., engraved by Edward Burton, Edinburgh, published by Alexander Hill, publisher to the Royal Scottish Academy, 67 Princes Street, Edinburgh, January, 1845. The original engraving bears at foot that the Rev. Thomas Chalmers, D.D., LL.D., was Principal and Primarius Professor of Divinity, New College, Edinburgh; Corresponding Member of the Royal Institute of France, etc., etc. The printer of the engraving was A. M'Glashon.

The following is an extract from the biographical sketch in the "Scottish Nation":—"The union in one person of such zeal and eloquence as Dr Chalmers displayed, is exceedingly rare. As a preacher, the grandeur of his conceptions, the novelty and amplitude of his illustrations, and the graphic force and significancy of his diction, with the irresistible earnestness of his manner, altogether formed such a combination of qualities as is seldom found in modern oratory. The celebrated Robert Hall (who is termed the prince of modern preachers) said that Dr Chalmers's preaching stopped the people's breath." The effect he produced, it has been remarked, was like that of the sage of Rasselas—"When he spoke attention watched his lips; when he reasoned, conviction closed his periods."

Dr Chalmers was buried in the Grange Cemetery, Edinburgh, a necropolis within which rest from their labours many of the "Disruption worthies," among them Dr Cunningham, Dr Guthrie, and Hugh Miller, the geologist. The burial lair is enclosed with an iron rod set in stone pillars. Of the inscriptions afterwards enumerated, the first four are inserted into the cemetery wall. They record that—(1) Thomas Chalmers, D.D., LL.D., born March 17, 1780; died May 31st, 1847. Grace Pratt, his wife, died January 15th, 1850, aged 58. (2) William Chalmers Hannah, died August 4th, 1849, aged 10 months. William Wood, C.A., born March 21st, 1812; died December 15th, 1892. Margaret Parker Chalmers, wife of William Wood, C.A., born August 8th, 1823; died May 21st, 1902. (3) Grace Pratt Chalmers, born July 24th, 1819; died December 24th, 1851. Frances Agnes Chalmers, born December 18th, 1827; died April 3rd, 1863. Helen Jemima Chalmers, born 4th October, 1826; died 2nd December, 1887. (4) Helen Chalmers, wife of the Revd. John M'Clellan of Kelton, born at Anstruther, 1786; died at Edinburgh, 1854. (5) Catherine Forbes, died 24th March, 1860, aged 76 years, for 42 years a faithful and beloved servant in the family of the Rev. Dr Chalmers. (6) In Memory of the Rev. John Mackenzie, fifth son of Sir George S. Mackenzie, Bart. of Coull, born 13th February, 1813; died 25th May, 1878. Eliza Chalmers or Mackenzie, born 5th July, 1816; died 18th September, 1892, wife of the above. (7) In memory of the Rev. William Hannah, D.D., LL.D., son of the Revd. Samuel Hannah, D.D. of Belfast, born 26th November, 1808; died 24th May, 1882. Also of his wife, Annie Simson Chalmers, born 5th May, 1813; died 27th March, 1891. Annie Elizabeth Hannah Blackie, grand-daughter of the above, born 27th December, 1885; died 17th May, 1888. (8) W. W. 1892.

There is an interesting sketch of Chalmers's funeral in Hugh Miller's leading articles; see also James Dodds's biographical study, and Professor William Garden Blaikie's able work in the "Famous Scots Series." A Chalmers Memorial Church rises on one side of the Grange Cemetery and a Robertson Memorial Church on the other, erected by rival Presbyterian bodies, Free and Established, in memory of men mighty in works and in faith. Further, Robert Macfie, Esq. of Airds and Oban, left the sum of £5000 sterling for the purpose of founding a Lectureship in memory of Thomas Chalmers, D.D., LL.D., the deed being dated 26th May, 1890. Rev. Sir Henry Wellwood Moncrieff, Bart., D.D., was the first lecturer, and his work, entitled "The Free Church Principle: Its Character and History," was published by Messrs Macniven and Wallace, Edinburgh, 1893.

(7) Dr Robert Morrison, the first Chinese missionary the London Missionary Society sent out to China. Two natives depicted in the portrait are seen translating the Scriptures into their language.

This interesting painting was presented to the college by Mr Harvey Hall, advocate, Deeside Lodge, Aboyne, October, 1909. He tells me that the picture was presented to him many years ago by a relative now deceased, who bought it at an auction room. The Chinese figures are no doubt Dr Morrison's native assistants, whose names cannot be ascertained.

Dr Robert Morrison, founder of Protestant missions in China, was born of Scottish parentage at Morpeth, 5th January, 1782, and in 1807 was sent to Canton by the London Missionary Society. In 1809-14 he translated and printed the New Testament. By 1819, with some help, he had done the same with the Old Testament; and in 1823 he commenced his great "Chinese Dictionary." In 1818 he established an Anglo-Chinese College at Malacca. After a visit to

Europe (1824-26), he returned to China. In 1834 he was interpreter to Lord Napier, and he died at Canton, 1st August. He was the author of "Horæ Sinicæ" (1812), and "Chinese Grammar" (1815), and "Chinese Miscellany" (1825). See Lives by his widow (1839) and Townsend (1888).

(8) Portrait of the first Free Church Assembly—signing the Deed of Demission.

This celebrated portrait forms the frontispiece to the Rev. Thomas Brown's "Annals of the Disruption of 1843."

(9) Class Groups, viz.—1887-1888, 1891-1892, 1895-1896, 1899-1900, 1903-1904, and 1904-1908.

For particulars see the "Matriculation Roll" in the possession of the college.

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

(To be Continued.)

Funeral of John Menzies of Pitfodels.

Mr John Menzies of Pitfodels, died in Edinburgh on 11th October, 1843, and his funeral is thus recorded in the "Aberdeen Journal" of 8th November following:—The public obsequies of the late Mr Menzies of Pitfodels having been delayed on account of the absence of Bishop Gillis, who was abroad, took place at Edinburgh on Thursday, and were conducted with great pomp and ceremony. There was a funeral service in the forenoon in St Mary's Catholic Chapel, Broughton Street, at which Bishop Gillis presided, and which was attended by a great number of the Brethren of the Holy Guild of St Joseph, besides friends and members of the Church. The service being completed about half-past one o'clock, the procession was formed along York Place, and consisted of members, who came first, followed by the Brethren with their robes and staffs of membership, about one half preceding, and the remaining following, the coffin, which was mounted on a bier, and surmounted with a silver crucifix. Lamps were carried behind it, and after the carriage of the deceased were a number of individuals carrying torches. Fifteen carriages and mourning coaches, each with four horses, followed, in which were Bishop Gillis, the Roman Catholic Priests, and the friends of the deceased. Having reached the head of York Place, the procession turned up St Andrew Street into Princes Street, along the Lothian Road and Home Street to the Convent, where the remains were deposited. Crowds of people lined the streets. . . attracted by the novelty of the sight. . . .

By the death of this venerable and worthy individual, one of the oldest families in the locality has become extinct. The first of the direct line who settled in the district was Gilbert Menzies, who married Marion Reid, heiress of Pitfodels. He was Provost of Aberdeen in 1428 and 1439. His descendants continued frequently to hold the same office for upwards of two hundred years, the last being Sir Paul Menzies, who was Provost in 1634. We find from our local chronicles that Provost Alexander and other citizens were deputed to attend the solemnisation of the marriage of King James IV. In 1557, Provost Thomas was delegated to repair to Edinburgh to treat and conclude concerning Queen Mary's marriage with the Dauphin of France. In 1620, another Provost of the same name was knighted by King James VI. On this occasion, he presented to the King a pearl, which had been found in a mussel shell in the "burn of Kelly," which runs into the river Ythan. It was considered to be of great value; and according to tradition, it still adorns the Imperial Crown. In 1633, Provost Paul Menzies received from King Charles I. the honour of knighthood at that unfortunate monarch's Coronation in Scotland. The bridle of the charger which the Provost rode on this occasion is still preserved in the City Armoury. The ancient residence of the family was on the north bank of the Dee, near the "Twa-mile Cross." They had a town mansion in Aberdeen, the site of which is now occupied by the Aberdeen Bank. It was a large, gloomy, turreted house, known by the name of Pitfodels Lodging, and is still remembered by elderly citizens.

The late Mr Menzies was for many years Convener of the County, and discharged that office with universal approbation. In private life, he was beloved and respected by all parties for his moral worth and his active benevolence. To the Church of his forefathers, of which he was a firm adherent, he proved a most munificent benefactor, having contributed essentially towards the founding and endowing of the Catholic College at Blairs. . .

Blackie's "Notes of a Life."

This interesting volume just published by Messrs William Blackwood and Sons, under the editorship of Mr A. Stodart Walker, contains seven chapters of an autobiography written by Professor Blackie in two years, commencing 1859.

The earlier chapters deal with Blackie's religious experiences and the impressions he formed from contact with such men as Rev. Dr Patrick Forbes, minister of Oldmachar. He tells how closely he read and studied the religious works he could lay hands upon, including Boston's "Four-Fold State."

The teaching of Greek at Aberdeen is criticised adversely, and the author singles out the names of two gentlemen—Mr Robert Abercromby of Forglen and Dr Francis Adams, Banchory—whom he considered as ranking high in scholarship.

The appointment as Professor of Latin in Marischal College seems to have been uncongenial to Blackie, who remarks:—

> The whole style of academical teaching seemed so juvenile and pedantic, so utterly without any lofty inspiration, that, instead of being elevated by my academical promotion, I felt degraded and humiliated.

The work amply repays close perusal.

Dumfries and Galloway Notes and Queries.

On 18th September, 1909, the "Dumfries and Galloway Courier and Herald" set apart a considerable space for Notes, Queries, and Replies "for the discussion of matters of History, Genealogy, Archæology, Folk-Lore, Literature, etc., relating to the County and Burghs of Dumfries and Galloway." The work has continued weekly since, and we cordially welcome the publication, in book form, of Part I.—Series I. covering the period September, 1909, to October, 1910. The volume, which is tastefully illustrated and extends to 120 double-columned pages, bears to have been printed at the office of the "Courier and Herald," Dumfries, and it is priced at the moderate sum of 2s 6d.

Among the Notes are interesting contributions on "Ancient Boat Found at Lochmaben," "Geological Section at Milldamhead," "Lake Dwellings and Canoes," "Sunday Market at Sanquhar," "Extracts from Minute Book 'Hammermen of Sanquhar.'" "Woman as a Soldier," "Prices of Provisions in the Old Times," "The Place Names of Irongray," "The Last Public Execution in Scotland," "Kirkyard Superstition," "The Burgh School of Dumfries," "Arms of Dumfriesshire and Galloway Families," "Dumfriesshire Penny Weddings," "Early Ploughs in Scotland," "Repentance Tower Hoddam," "The Geology of the Cluden Basin," "Moffat Wells," "Galloway Folk-Lore," "The Poets of Dumfriesshire," "Old Dumfries and the Midsteeple," "Spedlins Tower and its Legend," "Kindly Tenants of Lochmaben," "Potato-Growing in the Stewartry," "Dumfries 'Characters,'" "Galloway Gypsies," and "The First Pig in Dumfriesshire."

The Queries are numerous, and most of them have drawn forth accurate Replies.

The volume is a most creditable production, and will be readily bought by those having an interest in the district. Its value as a work of reference would have been enhanced if it had been furnished with an index, but this may be remedied in future issues.

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1881.

January 8. At Kirkton Bridge, Skene, Barbara Benton, widow of Rev. Gordon Raeburn, Schoolmaster, and for eighteen years Assistant Minister of Keig, in her 89th year.

January 7. At Chapel of Seggat, Auchterless, Andrew Wallace, aged 84.

January 8. At 21 Wilton Street, London, Mrs Gordon, Senior, of Pitlurg.

January 14. At 255 Union Street, Harriet Kilgour, wife of Patrick Cooper, Advocate, Aberdeen.

January 13. At Tisbury Lodge, Tisbury, South Wilts, in her 81st year, Jane Alithia, widow of Rev. Robert Lindsay, LL.D., Minister of Towie.

January 18. At Clearmont House, Don Road, Jersey, Rev. James Adam, M.A., Minister of Newhills, in his 51st year.

January 25. At 19 Douglas Crescent, Edinburgh, Keturah Gerard, third daughter of the late Rev. James Simmie, D.D., Minister of Rothiemay.

January 31. At Waukmill, Peterculter, Jean Gordon Stuart, wife of Dr Lyon.

February 12. At 45 Belmont Street, Aberdeen, Mary, eldest surviving daughter of Rev. John Shand, Minister of Kintore, in her 90th year.

February 14. At Cuparstone Place, Mary Leith, relict of Charles Downie of Ashfield, aged 76.

February 19. At 21 Manor Place, Edinburgh, Eliza Williamson, wife of William Ferguson, Esq. of Kinmundy.

April 4. At 15 Windsor Terrace, Kelvinside, Glasgow, Rev. William Barrack, LL.D. Principal of Kelvinside Academy, and formerly Rector of Aberdeen Grammar School.

April 10. At Barkmill House, Charles Runcy, aged 75; and at the same place on the following day, Elizabeth Simpson, his widow, aged 80.

April 12. At 9 Belmont Street, John Watt, sen., advocate, aged 75.

April 15. At Aberdeen, Andrew Gibb, F.S.A. (Scot.), aged 60.

April 20. At Denmore House, Hardy Robinson, Esq. of Denmore.

April 23. At 74 Carden Place, William Adam, of Easter Beltie, advocate, aged 83.

May 8. At Inchmarlo, Patrick Davidson of Inchmarlo, in his 72nd year.

March 6. At St Andrew's Manse, Wellington, New Zealand, William Mearns Abel, fourth son of the late Rev. John Abel, minister of Forgue, aged 20.

May 29. At 1 Abbotsford Place, Ferryhill, Robert White, M.D., aged 61.

May 25. At Orchard Hill, Stonehaven, Dr Patrick Buchan.

April 25. At St Paul de Loanda, Africa, John Carnegie, H.B.M. Vice-Consul, second son of the late John Carnegie of Redhall, Kincardineshire, aged 35.

June 17. At the Manse, Rosemount, the Rev. John Stephen, of Free John Knox Church.

June 20. At 61 Bogie Street, Huntly, the Rev. John Forbes, M.A., aged 64.

June 29. Drowned at sea, off Stonehaven, Forbes Morrison, late train and passenger superintendent, Great North of Scotland Railway, aged 41.

July 6. At Schoolhouse, Longside, Margaret Ferguson, aged 63, widow of the Rev. William Center, F.R.S.E., late parochial schoolmaster at Longside.

July 15. At 23 Justice Mill Lane, Aberdeen, George Reid, senior partner of B. Reid and Company, nurserymen and agricultural implement makers.

July 17. At Shiels, Belhelvie, Dr R. F. S. Proctor, aged 34.

July 18. At London, Elizabeth A. D. S. Duff of Corsindae, aged 71.

August 4. At Manse of Methlick, the Rev. James Whyte, D.D., in the 42nd year of his ministry in that parish, aged 71.

August 1. David Erskine Forbes, son of the late John Forbes Mitchell, Esq. of Thainstone, aged 65.

August 6. At Bombay, of cholera, aged 44, the Rev. Duncan Macpherson, D.D., Senior Chaplain, Church of Scotland, eldest son of the late Rev. Robert Macpherson, D.D., Professor of Divinity in the University of Aberdeen.

August 20. At Macduff, Jane Macdonald or Clark, relict of the Rev. John Clark, for forty-eight years schoolmaster of Turriff, aged 75.

August 25. At 136 Crown Street, Alexander Moffat, auditor, Sheriff Court, Aberdeen, aged 37.

September 4. At Inverey Cottage, Banchory-Ternan, William Black Ferguson, C.E., Aberdeen, Lieut.-Col., Deeside Highlanders.

September 23. At 38 Skene Terrace, Aberdeen, Isabella Simpson, widow of the Rev. William Browning, joint incumbent of St Andrew's Church, in her 81st year.

August 12. At Wrentmore, Sydney, N.S.W., Patrick Leslie, Esq., second son of the late William Leslie, Esq. of Warthill, in his 65th year.

October 15. At 5 Alford Place, Aberdeen, Margaret Eliza Jemima Gordon, daughter of the late Charles Gordon, Esq. of Wardhouse and Kildrummy, in her 87th year.

October 18. At Galleries, Margaret Glennie, daughter of the late Rev. Dr Glennie, Professor of Philosophy, in Marischal College, in her 79th year.

October 21. At 165 Crown Street, Elizabeth Catto Rennie, wife of William Yeats M'Donald, bank agent.

October 31. At London, Isabella M'Combie, widow of David Blaikie, Esq., of Blaikie Brothers, Aberdeen.

November 6. At Aberdeen, James Gregory Moir Byres, Esq., of Tonley, in his 78th year.

November 16. At 16 Bon-Accord Square, Aberdeen, aged 82, Andrew Robertson, Esq. of Hopewell, M.D., late Commissioner for Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

November 17. At 11 College Bounds, Rev. John Black, M.A., LL.D., Professor of Humanity in the University of Aberdeen, aged 47.

December 28. The Hon. James Hunter Forbes of Brux, in his 49th year.

Queries.

600. William Booth, Painter.—Information is solicited respecting the career of William Booth, son of George Booth, jeweller, Aberdeen, who, in January, 1825, was admitted a Fellow of the Royal Academy of London. He was then only 18, and is said to have "exhibited talents of no ordinary description."

Pictor.

601. Miss Isabella Westland, Aberdeen.—Who was Isabella Westland, the donor, in January, 1825, of "a handsome Mort-Cloth and bier to the managers of the Poor's Hospital, Aberdeen, "for the purpose of being lent out gratis for the funerals of the poor of the parish of St Nicholas.

A. B.

602. Doune.—I have recently been examining an old Chartulary, wherein reference is made to the lands and barony of Doune. No description is given, but, from the identifications I have made of the other properties mentioned, I presume they were in Aberdeen, Kincardine, or Banff. Enlightenment, with brief history, will oblige.

W. D.

Answers.

593. Parish Ministers of Kemnay.—Down till 1632, Kemnay belonged to the benefice of Kinkell. Its ministers from that time to 1897 have been:—

1633.—Alexander Sibbald, who was previously at Kinneff.

1641.—John Seaton, previously a Regent in Marischal College.

1650.—David Leeche, or Leith, translated from Ellon. Deprived in 1653 for desertion.

1654.—James Willox, previously an army chaplain. Became blind, and died in February, 1695.

1699.—William Leslie, who was translated to Chapel of Garioch in January, 1707.

1709.—James Shand, son of the minister of Premnay, who was transferred to Kintore in 1718.

1719.—Francis Dauney, previously at Keithhall, died November, 1745.

1747.—Patrick Simson, son of the minister of Monymusk, translated to Inverurie February, 1757.

1758.—Alexander Reid, son of John Reid, Nether Sauchen, died August, 1775.

1776.—Patrick Davidson, son of Patrick Davidson in Scotstown, translated to Rayne 1778.

1779.—John Shand, son of John Shand in Old Rayne, translated to Chapel of Garioch in 1787.

1788.—Patrick Mitchell, son of Alexander Mitchell, Craigearn, died September, 1837.

1839.—George Peter, son of John Peter, Canterland, died 12th December, 1897.

A. L.

598. Two-Mile Cross.—It was after the summer of 1843 that this place was improved out of existence. William Mennie farmed it down to his death, which occurred in the spring of 1843.

H.

599. Pictures by James W. Giles, R.S.A.—Although I cannot answer in full the query by "R. G.," it may assist him so far to learn that the picture "Lochnagar looking up Glen Glender" was acquired by James L'Amy, Edinburgh, for £60, and "No Surrender" by the late Charles Chalmers, advocate, Aberdeen, for £80, both in the summer of 1842.

Y.

No. 141.—December 30, 1910.

Discovery of Prehistoric Wheat in Morayshire.

While visiting the Culbin Sands this summer, in company with Mr Ludovic M'L. Mann, F.S.A.Scot., I noticed the fragment of an urn projecting from an old layer of soil. On closer examination of the spot, we discovered the presence of charred wheat, several handfuls being recovered. Quantities of burnt wood lay scattered about, and several hammer-stones and a calcined scraper of flint were found. The fragments of pottery discovered resembled the cinerary urn of the Bronze Age class of ware. From this, it is believed that the grain may belong to the Scottish Bronze Age, and that the site had been occupied by a hut of wattle-work, which had been consigned to the flames.

The importance of the discovery will be realised when it is remembered that only three grains of wheat, which can be assigned to so early a period as the Bronze Age, have been found in Great Britain. These were found embedded in the wall of an urn found in Yorkshire. The imprints of two grains of wheat have also been seen on the fragment of an urn believed to be of Bronge Age, which was found a few years ago at North Berwick.

J. Graham Callander, F.S.A.Scot.

Delitiæ Poetarum Scotorum.

(Continued.)

Adam King.—Native of Edinburgh, and for several years a professor of philosophy and mathematics in the University of Paris. He was a devout Catholic, and when there translated Peter Canisius' Catechism, to which was appended a "Kalendar of Saints," in which the Caledonian ones are duly enrolled. It was republished by the Scottish Text Society in 1901, but without any notice of his Latin poetry —Adamus Regius being evidently unknown to the editor. King added a Supplement of 610 lines to Buchanan's fourth book of "De Sphæra," and 82 lines to the fifth book. Ruddiman included both in his large edition of Buchanan's works, 1715. They likewise appear in the D.P.S., and also a poem on the nativity of our Saviour, "Genethliacon Iesu Christi," and a panegyric on the accession of James VI. to the English Crown. King also wrote a treatise on the theory of the planets, and seems to have justly merited Dempster's eulogium as to elegance and erudition. King quitted his French professoriate and returned to Edinburgh, where he practised as a commissary of the law, and died there in 1620. His library was sold for 2000 merks to Robert Munro of Cantullich. (See Bannatyne Miscellany, 1836, vol. ii., p. 190.)

David Kinloch, M.D.—Latinised Kynnalochus. A skilful physician, man of good family and undoubted learning, native of Arbroath, and in his time chirurgeon to the Kings of France and Great Britain. The second volume of D.P.S. begins with a professional treatise by Kinloch, in eleven chapters, "De Hominis Procreatione de Anatome." He died, aged 58, on 10th September, 1617, and is buried in that unique reliquary of the seventeenth century, the Howff Cemetery of Dundee. I saw his tomb there in 1860, and copied the inscription, as I knew that he was a Latin poet. A quatrain on his monument is thus rudely Englished by Robert Monteith, in his "Theater of Mortalitie," 1704:—

"Gallant Kinloch, his famous ancient race
Appear by this erected on this place.
This honour great indeed; his art and skill
And famous name both sides of the Pole do fill!"

The ridiculous brag of the last line reminds me of an epitaph I saw in the Church of St John de Lateran, in Rome, which declared that the whole earth was full of the glory of the deceased; but I could not find his name in any biographical dictionary.

Thomas Reid.—Second son of Rev. James Reid, of Pitfoddels family, who was the first Protestant minister of Banchory-Ternan from 1567 to 1602. He was educated at Aberdeen Grammar School and Marischal College, then inaugurated, being an early student there, graduating M.A. in 1600. He then travelled extensively on the Continent of Europe, and, like a scholastic paladin, published theses, and challenged disputation. He was appointed Professor of Philosophy at Rostock University in Northern Germany in 1608, and taught for several years with great reputation. He argued with Henning Arnisæus, Professor in the University of Frankfort-on-the-Oder, on metaphysical subjects, and, collecting these pamphlets afterwards, eight of which had been published while at Rostock, he reissued them. He was in Leipsic in 1613, and in 1618 in London, when he was appointed Greek and Latin secretary to the King. His principal task, in conjunction with Patrick Young, was translating into Latin the treatises of the King. He died in 1624, and Sir Robert Ayton, who had been associated with him at the Court, wrote a Latin epicedium to his memory (126 lines). Reid was an industrious book and manuscript collector when on the Continent, and at his death, bequeathed them to his Alma Mater, Marischal College. A younger brother, Alexander Reid, was a celebrated physician in his time, author of a "Manual of Anatomy" and other works. He died in 1641. He was Court Chirurgeon for many years.

Hercules Rollock.—By some writers he has been described as the elder brother of the Rev. Robert Rollock, first Principal of the University

of Edinburgh; but the late William Maxwell Gunn, LL.D., who edited the select works of the Principal for the Wodrow Society in 1849, and translated Robertson's Latin memoir, explicitly states:—"Of relationship between Robert and Hercules Rollock I have been unable to discover any evidence." They may have been kinsmen, both natives of Stirlingshire; but Robert died first, and Hercules graced his memory with a Latin elegy. The poet was a student at St Andrews, and was a regent in King's College, Aberdeen, for some time (1569-72), and then went abroad to France, and studied at Poictiers, where he became acquainted with the younger Scaliger (Joseph Justus), with whom he corresponded and was on terms of intimate friendship. He obtained great fame for his Latin poetry, especially the epithalamium on the nuptials of James VI. with the Princess Anne of Denmark. On returning to Scotland, he was recommended by Buchanan in 1580 to the notice of the King, who appointed him Commissary of Angus. In 1584 he was settled headmaster of the High School of Edinburgh, and retained the position for 11 years, when he was dismissed by the Town Council in 1595, against which he inveighed in bitter terms, stating that, without his guidance, the school would relapse into barbarism. Andrew Melville virulently attacked him, from a report that Rollock had lampooned the banished ministers, and ironically termed him "a starved schoolmaster turned lawyer," for he had acquired a post in the Court of Session. Rollock resented this attack, denying that he had written the offensive pasquil; but he was virtually deprived of his regular livelihood, and died at the close of 1599. From an entry in the Edinburgh Town Council records (February 1600), we learn that an allowance was made to "the relict and bairns of umquhill Hercules Rollock." He was a fine classical scholar, and, according to Dr M'Crie, "was better acquainted with the language than the spirit of the Roman poets. His description of the miseries of Scotland during the Civil War is his most poetical performance."

Thomas Maitland.—A younger brother of the celebrated secretary, Maitland of Lethington, and also an ardent partisan of Queen Mary, educated at St Andrews and France. He was a precocious young man, splendidly endowed both physically and mentally. He was of a daring character, and fabricated a fictitious account of a conference between the Regent Moray and the leaders of his party, to set aside the young King and claim the crown for himself; and after the assassination of the Regent in 1570, he threw a pasquil into Knox's pulpit, containing those words—"Take up now the man whom you accounted another God, and consider the end to which his ambition hath brought him." Knox, while bewailing the fate of the Regent, prophetically avowed that the writer of the pasquil should not go unpunished, that he would die where "there shall be none to lament him." Maitland got involved in the plots of his brother, but he escaped to the Continent, and died at Rome in 1572, aged only 22. Buchanan made him an interlocutor in the celebrated treatise, "De Jure Regni apud Scotos," 1579. His share in the D.P.S. comprises "Sylvæ," dedicated to James VI., seven elegies, and thirty epigrams. Doubtless, if Maitland had lived, he would have made a great name in Scottish literature and statesmanship.

Thomas Murray.—Born 1564. He translated into Latin verse King James's jejune rhymes on the battle of Lepanto, entitled "Naupactiados, sive Lepantiados," and when the King succeeded to the English throne, he rewarded his translator in 1605 with the Mastership of Sherburn Hospital, near Durham. This institution is still in existence, for I visited it one Sunday evening long ago, not from any devotional feeling, I admit, but to gratify my curiosity anent the old chapel and the quaint costume of the resident bedesmen. Murray was afterwards tutor to Prince Charles, and in 1622 appointed Provost of Eton College; but he did not hold the position long, for he died on 9th April, 1623, aged 59. Both Arthur Johnston and John Leitch eulogised Murray in verse for his poetical gifts, and Dempster praised him for his erudition.

ALBA.

(To be Continued.)

A King's New Year in Aberdeen.

In 1497, James IV. celebrated the New Year in Aberdeen. On the 13th of December he left the Royal residence in Stirling with the intention of attending the Northern Circuit Courts, or "Justice Ayres," as they were then called. Proceeding by way of Falkland and St Andrews, he went round by Perth and Foulis, in Angus, and reached Dundee on the 22nd. Leaving there, he passed Montrose, and, crossing by ferries the rivers South Esk and North Esk, finally arrived in Aberdeen, making an offering in the Lady Chapel of Cowie as he rode past. Accompanying him were the Earl of Mar, Lord Drummond, the justiciar; the Earl of Angus, chancellor; the Earl of Huntly, the Bishop of Aberdeen, Lord Home, the chamberlain; Lord Gray, Lord Oliphant, and several others. Sir John Ramsay, the keeper of the privy purse, also appears to have been one of the party. Curry, the Court fool, was despatched ahead of the King from St Andrews to prepare for his arrival in Aberdeen. He left the former town on the 17th December, and the hire of £3 6s 8d was there paid for a horse to convey him on his way. James appears to have reached Aberdeen on the 23rd or 24th of December.

The usual New Year's festivities of the King and Court commenced at Yule (the 25th December), and extended over the New Year to Uphaliday, or Epiphany (6th January), and were not even held to be concluded until Candlemas was past. Great preparations were made for the feast, to which many lords and ladies were invited, and throngs of nobility and attendants partook of the King's good cheer. The apparel worn was of the gayest and costliest description, the King frequently appearing in robes of crimson satin, or velvet, fur-lined or broaded with gold.

Details of the King's "Yule" at Aberdeen are rather scanty. In fact, it seems to have been rather a quiet affair, for no mention is made of invitations having been issued to the nobility to attend it, while other usual celebrations and functions were either dispensed with or are unrecorded.

Early on Yule Day it was customary for the King and Court, amid a very considerable display of pageantry, to attend high mass and make an offering. This the King did, but we have no details of the Royal procession. The offering at high mass was 14s, and his "offerand on the bred" 18s, while either on this day or previously he gave the Black Friars 23s and the White Friars 17s 6d. At noon he gave the heralds a largess of £7 13s 4d.

Cards and dice were favourite Court amusements at Christmastide, and the former were certainly requisitioned on this occasion, for in the Lord High Treasurer's accounts it is recorded that the King received £10 10s "to the cartis with my Lord of Mar," and £18 "that samyne nicht, to the cartis with other Lords."

Mummings, disguisings, and plays, in which professional players were engaged, and on which large sums were occasionally spent, were generally indispensable features of the amusements. An Abbot of Unreason was appointed as master of the revels, and held sway until Candlemas, attended by a boisterous throng, who engaged in all sorts of buffoonery. People of gravity and distinction were sometimes elected to this doubtful honour, and could only escape from the uncongenial task by payment of a fine. This functionary received a wage from the King, but it sometimes happened that the monarch had to pay for damage done to property by the cantrips of the Abbot and his satellites. Whether such mummings took place in Aberdeen on this occasion I am unable to say. There is, however, no record of any sums paid for such a purpose in the Lord High Treasurer's accounts. Therefore, we may infer that if these amusements were engaged in, their cost was not met by disembursements from the Royal purse.

On St Stephen's Day (26th December), the King gave 26s 8d to the priests' first Mass, and on St John's Day (27th December), 9s to the offering "on the bred." On that evening, cards were again played, and it would appear that the King lost rather heavily, for the treasurer paid him the sum of £60 17s 10d.

On the 30th of December, the King gave £20 to the poor people begging at Yule "to sted them quhill candillmes or eftir." That night the King again played at cards and "tint" £28. On the following night he was similarly engaged, receiving from the treasurer the sum of £25 for that purpose. This amount, however, proved insufficient, for in the course of the sitting the King borrowed from a certain Andrew Wood, in one of the Earl of Angus's inns, money to the value of £13 13s 6d.

On the 1st of January, it was customary for the treasurer to give the King a sum of money in the morning, which sum was probably given by the Monarch to servants and bearers of gifts. On the present occasion, the amount so paid was 14s. Another payment made the same day was 28s to the "comcune pyparis of Abirdene." On New Year's Day the King generally attended Mass, and thereafter bestowed rewards and honours upon the officers of his household. There is, however, no record of any of these proceedings having taken place at Aberdeen in 1497.

On the 3rd of January, the King visited the Abbot of Lindores at Fintray. On the 5th he was back in Aberdeen, and gave a gratuity of 13s 4d to a "wife" that brought him apples. On the 7th we find him making payment of 18s to a certain Bessie Bertram, "to pas hame with," and a further 18s for a man to escort her. Who this Bessie Bertram was is not very clear, but she seems to have accompanied the King, for on the 3rd of the following March she received another 18s from him in Ayr.

On Uphaliday eve the custom of electing a King or Queen of the Bean was widely prevalent. This personage presided over the festivities of the following day, which, being the last of the twelve holidays which began with Yule, was generally marked by increased revelry and hilarity, with guising, music, and in fact anything likely to contribute to the common amusement. That the King recognised this function is evident from his making payment of £3 17s 6d to the "King of the Bene."

After sending a man ahead to prepare reception for him, the King left Aberdeen on the 8th January. Proceeding to Inverness, he was present at the opening of the "Justice Ayres" there on the 24th. The other northern ayres followed, namely—Elgin, Banff, Aberdeen, Bervie, Cupar, Dundee, and Perth. That the King intended to at least attend the first few of these courts is fairly apparent, for he left Curry with his "man" in Aberdeen to wait until his "incumming agane," and paid 9s towards covering their expenses. For some unexplained reason, however, the King went direct from Inverness to Perth, where he arrived on the 6th February. Curry and his "man" remained in Aberdeen till 2nd March, when there was paid for "Curryiss hors stabil hire in Abirdene, the tyme he was thare, and his awne costis quhar he lay, and for his bed," 6s 8d, as well as another 2s to convey him to Bervie. Here he joined the circuit lords and followed in their train until their arrival at Perth, when the "Justice Ayres" ended.

DAVID GREWAR, F.S.A. (Scot.).

United Free Church, College, Aberdeen.

(Continued.)

MUSEUM.

(1) Photograph of Alexander Thomson, Esquire of Banchory, sitting in his study along with his wife, Jessy Fraser.

Alexander Thomson was born 21st June, 1798, at Banchory House, near Aberdeen. The family from which he sprang traced its descent from John Knox, the Scottish Reformer. John Knox left three daughters, one of whom was married to Mr Baillie, of the Jerviswoode family, and by him had a daughter, who was married to Mr Kirkton, of Edinburgh. By the latter marriage there was a daughter, Margaret, who was married to Dr Andrew Skene, of Aberdeen ("Memorials of the Family of Skene," p. 149). Dr Skene left several children, the eldest of whom, Dr Andrew Skene, had by his wife, Margaret Lumsden, daughter of Lumsden of Cushnie, three sons and four daughters (Ibid., 150). One of the daughters—Mary—married in 1769 Andrew Thomson of Banchory, who had issue by her—Margaret, Andrew, and Alexander. Andrew Thomson married Helen Hamilton, daughter of Dr Robert Hamilton, of Marischal College, Aberdeen ("Records of Marischal College," II., 54), and by her had a son Alexander. At an early age Alexander was sent to the Aberdeen Grammar School. From the Grammar School he proceeded to Marischal College, where his grandfather, Dr Robert Hamilton, above mentioned, was Professor of Mathematics. He graduated in April, 1816. He married on 14th February, 1825, Janet (more frequently called Jessy) Fraser (born 14th February, 1799; died 8th August, 1870), daughter of Provost Alexander Fraser, Aberdeen. Mr Thomson died 20th May, 1868, and was buried in a vault in the Free Church burying-ground at Banchory-Devenick.

Mr Thomson is held in grateful remembrance on account of his munificent gifts to the community, especially the endowment of the Free Church Divinity Hall at Aberdeen. He bequeathed his valuable museum and library to the Free Church College, Aberdeen. In the museum of the College mentioned there is deposited

AN ANTIQUE WATCH,

which Mr Thomson possessed as an heirloom from his ancestors. Having seen this beautiful watch, which has been lent several times for exhibition, I append Mr Thomson's memorandum thereon:—"The unvarying tradition is that the watch was the property of the great Reformer, and, further, that it was presented to him by Queen Mary on some occasion when she wished to show favour to him, and that it has even since been preserved as an heirloom in the family. In those days watches were rare, and such an one was no unsuitable gift even from Royalty. The tradition is strengthened by the following circumstance:—When in Edinburgh one day about 1840, I heard that there was an old picture of Knox in the shop of a dealer and cleaner of pictures in Adam Square. I went to see it, and found it an old but coarse picture, very black, rather more than three-quarter length, representing the Reformer standing beside a small table, and on the table lay a rude figure of this watch. I asked if it was for sale, quite ready to pay more than its value for it, but the shopman told me it was only sent to be cleaned. On returning to take another look of it a few days afterwards, I was much provoked to find that in the meantime it had been sold. The person with whom I had spoken was not the master of the shop, and was not aware the picture was for sale. It was so far, however, satisfactory to know it had been bought for the Marquis of Breadalbane."

For full particulars regarding Mr Thomson see Rev. George Smeaton's "Memoir of Alexander Thomson of Banchory," published by Messrs Edmonston and Douglas, 1869. A list of his published books is given in Mr A. W. Robertson's "Hand List," pp. 119-120, printed for the New Spalding Club, Aberdeen, 1895.

(2) A bust has written upon a piece of paper at back:—Alexander Thomson, Esq., of Banchory; born 21st June, 1798; died 20th May, 1868. Sculptor [William] Brodie, 1859.

William Brodie, R.S.A., sculptor, was born in Banff, 22nd January, 1815, and died at Edinburgh, 1881. He married and had issue. Among the works which he executed may be mentioned statues of Lord Cockburn in the Parliament House, Edinburgh, and of Mr David Brewster in the quadrangle of Edinburgh University: also a bust of the late Queen Victoria in the Scottish Portrait Gallery. He was elected A.R.S.A in 1851, and R.S.A. in 1859. Of his other works, Burton, Carlyle, Combe, Dunfermline, Maclaren, Hugh Miller, and Alexander Russell, of the "Scotsman," are mentioned in James L. Caw's Catalogue of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery (Edinburgh, 1905), page 233. References to him appear in Irving's "Dictionary of Eminent Scotsmen," p. 39; Robert Brydall's "Art in Scotland," pp. 191-92; and in "Aberdeen Town Hall Armorial Bearings." Brodie's sister was a personal friend of the writer's grand-uncle, Mr William Brodie, born at Backies, Glenbuchat, 2nd July, 1825; died at 23 Ashley Road, Aberdeen, 17th July, 1900.

(3) A brass attached to a case of plastic casts and also specimens of birds' eggs, shells, stones, etc., natural history specimens, etc., bears—

COLLECTED BY WILLIAM EWAN,
WHO DIED 13th NOVEMBER, 1851, IN THE
THIRD SESSION OF THE COURSE OF STUDY AT
THE FREE CHURCH DIVINITY HALL,
ABERDEEN.

William Ewan, born at Aberdeen, 26th February, 1834, was a son of William Ewan and Margaret Thomson. When about nine years of age, he entered the Aberdeen Grammar School, at which he continued four years. In October, 1847, he gained the second bursary in Marischal College, and at the close of session 1847-8, obtained the prize for a poem on the siege of Tyre. During the second session of his literary course, he became a student of natural history, under the celebrated Dr William Macgillivray. He usually spent part of the summer with relatives at Upper Banchory, where he applied himself enthusiastically to the collection of flowers, insects, etc. In 1851, he entered the Free Church Divinity Hall, Aberdeen. The matriculation roll of session 1852-53 contains his name. He died at 20 Union Row, Aberdeen, 13th November, 1854. The "Aberdeen Journal" of 6th December, later noted that—William Ewan was a young man of natural genius, high cultivation, and great promise; that in his literary course he distinguished himself, especially in the study of the classics, moral philosophy, and natural history; and that in his brief career as a theological student, he produced some verses of the highest merit, exhibiting the richest vein of thought and a happy use of the most appropriate imagery. In the "Aberdeen Journal," 4th July, 1855, I find a review of his collected "Discourses, Essays, and Poems," selected from his writings (Aberdeen: G. Davidson, 1855). The volume contains two discourses, and the heads of a third; four essays, or fragments on natural history, universal atonement, inspiration of the Bible, Christianity as a remedial scheme, and some half-dozen poetical pieces. The first discourse was prepared when Ewan was 19, and the other before he was 20.

(4) A brass attached to an octagonal table bears—

MR THOMSON'S TABLE.
FROM THE LIBRARY AT BANCHORY HOUSE,
PRESENTED
TO THE FREE CHURCH COLLEGE, ABERDEEN
BY THE MISSES FRASER.
DECEMBER, 1872.

The donors, Misses Fraser, were daughters of Provost Alexander Fraser, Aberdeen, and sisters-in-law of Mr Thomson. In 1908 Miss Angelica Patience Fraser, 10 Upper Westbourne Terrace, London, W., presented to the Aberdeen Public Library a photograph of her father from a portrait by Sir Henry Raeburn (1756-1823). She died at 10 Upper Westbourne Terrace, London, 27th November, 1910, in her 88th year, and her remains were interred at Kensal Green Cemetery. An interesting biographical sketch concerning her appears in the "Evening Express" of 29th November, 1910.

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

(To be continued.)

Unique Death Intimation.

The annexed death intimation appears in the obituary column of "The Dominion," Wellington, New Zealand, October 19th, 1910:—

RAHERA TE KAHUIAPO.—On October 12, 1910, at Tauranga, Rahera te Kahuiapo, a chieftainess of the Arawa and Ngaiterangi tribes, aged 97 years.

The deceased was from the Ariki line of the Hapus: Ngati-Pikiao, Waituha, Ngati-Pukenga, Ngati-Te-Takinga, and Nga-Potiki

She leaves two daughters, Ka te Atirau, and Kapua, the Chief of the Arawa canoe, and also of Hei, Rangitihi, Toroa, Waituha, Pikiao, Tuparahaki, Pukenga, Tutanekai, and of other chiefs of the Canoes Arawa, Matatua, and Tainui, which crossed the Pacific Ocean to New Zealand.

She leaves two daughters, Ka te Atirau, and Mere Taka, of Tauranga, twelve grandchildren, and seventeen great-grandchildren.

He heu uta ka kitea
He heu moana e kore e kitea.
He tao huata e taea te karo
He tao na Aitua, e kore.

Traces of a being on shore may be discovered,
Those on the ocean never.
The thrust of a spear shaft may be parried,
That of death never.

—Inserted by her granddaughter, Te Rongokahira (Mrs C. R. Parata, Wellington).

"Aberdeen Journal" Obituary. 1882.

January 2. At 32 Dee Street, Rev. William Reid, Minister of Auchindoir and Kearn, in his 78th year.

January 15. At 7 Union Place, Mrs Stuart, senior, of Inchbreck and Laithers, aged 74.

January 17. At 87 Crown Street, James Hunter, Chemist, aged 43.

January 28. At Leamington, Mary Agnew, widow of George Moir, Esq. of Denmore, in her 79th year.

February 8. At 9 Quay, John Begg, Distiller, Lochnagar, aged 78.

February 3. At 35 Dee Street, Anabella, widow of Alexander Forbes of Boyndlie, in her 86th year.

February 12. At Bournemouth, Alexandrina Jane, wife of J. W. Gordon of Cairness, aged 57.

February 20. At San Remo, John Gordon, Esq. of Pitlurg and Dyce.

February 19. At Southfield, Foveran, Margaret Marr, aged 101, relict of Alexander Simpson, farmer there.

March 4. At 12 Evan Street, Stonehaven, James Anderson, late Grain Merchant, aged 100.

March 8. At New Byth Manse, Anne May, wife of Rev. J. Falconer.

April 1. At 17 Victoria Street, Rev. Joseph Henderson, Senior Minister of Greyfriars Parish, aged 54.

April 18. At the Manse, Old Aberdeen, Fife Jamieson, M.A., M.B., C.M., aged 28.

April 25. At Ventnor, John Forbes-Mitchell of Thainstone.

April 23. At Manse of Cookney, Mary Whyte Lawrence, wife of Rev. James Taylor.

April 26. At Inchgower, Alexander Wilson, late of Tochieneal, aged 76.

May 11. At Carron House, Stonehaven, William Mowat, senior, Leather Merchant, aged 69.

May 14. At Gogar House, near Edinburgh, James Skelton, Esq., W.S., for 30 years Sheriff-Substitute of Aberdeenshire, aged 83.

May 2. At East Grand Crossing, Chicago, Isabella Anne, beloved wife of Quintin Johnstone, and daughter of the late Rev. William Minty, Kennethmont.

June 17. At 1a Albyn Place, Robert Boyd Tytler, Esq., late of Ceylon, in his 63rd year.

June 21. At 21 Springbank Terrace, Mary Taylor, widow of William Garden, Surgeon, Alford.

July 7. At the Manse, Rathen, aged 20, Catharine Anne Marjory, younger daughter of the Rev. John F. M. Cock, D.D.

July 15. At 16 Albyn Terrace, George Dickie, M.D., F.R.S., Emeritus Professor of Botany in the University of Aberdeen, aged 69.

July 10. Alexander Turing, Esq., H.B.M. Consul at Rotterdam, fourth son of the late Sir James Henry Turing, Bart., aged 47.

August 1. At 15 Queen's Road, Lessel Stephen, Advocate.

August 24. At 53 Carden Place West, John Paterson, Surgeon, aged 85.

September 13. At Stoneywood House, Charlotte Anne, widow of Alexander Pirie, Stoneywood, and daughter of the late Colonel Martin Lindsay, C.B., aged 58.

September 19. At 6 Mount Vernon, Hampstead, London, John, third son of the late Rev. Alexander Low, Keig, aged 31.

September 30. At 54 Osborne Place, Sarah Ogston, widow of Dr Proctor (late of Belhelvie).

October 10. At Kyneton, Gloucestershire, Anna Maclaine, wife of W. O. Maclaine, Esq. of Kyneton and of Murtle, aged 58.

October 29. At Leeds, John F. Arthur, M.B., C.M., eldest son of the Rev. D. F. Arthur, Free Church, Banchory-Devenick.

November 21. At 253 Union Street, William Pirrie, M.D., LL.D., Emeritus Professor of Surgery, University of Aberdeen, and Surgeon in Scotland to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

November 18. At Schoolhouse, Chapel of Garioch, Agnes Watt, wife of the Rev. George Selbie.

November 21. At Bellslea House, Fraserburgh, Robert Anderson, Solicitor, aged 47.

November 28. At the Manse, Portlethen, the Rev. William Bruce, M.A.

December 6. At 148 Crown Street, Charles Fox Griffith, late manager of the Scottish Provincial Assurance Company, aged 73.

December 19. At Leithfield House, Fordoun, John Anderson, Esq. of Leithfield and Bridgeton.

Queries.

603. David Gordon of Midbeltie.—He figured as a freeholder in Aberdeenshire, 1804. Is he a descendant of a Braickley stock, one of whom was located in Cromar? According to tradition repeated to me recently, the Gordons in Tarland, Lumphanan, Aboyne, and Coull are descended from a Braickley Gordon.

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

604. John Menzies, Mill of Dye.—What facts are known in reference to the career of John Menzies, Mill of Dye? Who was he the son of, whom did he marry, and what family did he leave? What was his relationship to John Menzies, the last laird of Pitfodels?

E. Anderson.

605. Submarine Patent.—The "Scottish American," 19th October, 1910, contains the following statement:—"The earliest-known patent upon a submarine vessel was one granted by a French King in 1640 to a Scotchman who had invented an underwater craft for fishing and salvage purposes." What was the ingenious Scotchman's name?

R. Murdoch-Lawrance.

606. Old Aberdeen Burgesses.—Will any reader oblige with information as to the names of the parents and immediate ancestors (with dates of birth, marriages, and deaths) of the following Burgesses of Trade and Burgesses of the town of Old Aberdeen?—William Innes, linddresser; Trade Burgess of "The Gardeners' Society" in 1758. Alexander Innes, gardener; Burgess of "The Burgh of Old Aberdeen" in

1777, Trade Burgess of "The Gardeners' Society" in 1782, and Trade Burgess of "The Merchants' Society" in 1784. Alexander Innes, mariner; Burgess of "The Burgh of Old Aberdeen" in 1792; also the place and date of birth of Thomas Innes, wright; Burgess of "The Burgh of Old Aberdeen" in 1797, Trade Burgess of "The Merchants' Society" in 1797, and Trade Burgess of "The Gardeners' Society" in 1795. What age had entrants to be before being allowed to join any of the above trades societies?

Alexander Innes, gardener, Inverury, who married Helen Riddell (their family alive in 1803 were Alexander, Thomas, and Sarah), purchased property in Old Aberdeen in 1776, his procurator being Robert Innes merchant, Aberdeen. Mr Hall of Rosehill was first cousin to this Alexander Innes.

In 1790 John Sutherland sold a rood of land in Inverury to Robert Innes, merchant, Aberdeen, whose son sold it to the Earl of Kintore in 1804.

HABON.

Answers.

324. NELLFIELD CEMETERY, ABERDEEN.—(Vol. II., 254, 262, 292, 320, 351). "M. H. M." may note that Alexander Martin of Nellfield was a director of the Aberdeen Fire Assurance Office, established 1st December, 1801 ("Aberdeen Almanac," 1804, p. 219). The assurance company was formed for insuring houses, farm stock, merchandize, etc.

R. MURDOCH-LAWRANCE.

585. LORD AND LADY BRACO.—Thinking that Braco might be a place-name, I looked up the "Gazetteer of Scotland," published 1847. It gives—"Braco. See Ardoch." "Ardoch commonly called Braco, from the estate off which it is feued. . . . A chapel of ease was erected here in 1780." Then the article describes the Roman Camp, etc., and a subterranean passage. There was a hole near the side of the prætorium that went in a sloping direction for many fathoms, in which it was generally believed treasures, as well as Roman antiquities, might be found. To ascertain this fact, a man who had been condemned, on obtaining a pardon, agreed to be let down by a rope into this hole. He brought up with him Roman spears, helmets, fragments of bridles, and several other articles; but upon being let down a second time was killed by foul air. The articles lay at the House of Ardoch for many years, but were carried off by soldiers in the Duke of Argyle's army in 1715, and have never been recovered. The mouth of the hole was covered by a mill-stone by an old gentleman who lived at Ardoch while the family were in Russia, and the place cannot now be found though diligent search has been made for it. That looks as if "the family" had got into trouble in 1715.

In a book of Peers, etc., in the time of George II. there is a Lord Braco given as an Irish Baron, and the family name "Duff," and, by turning to the Earldom of Fife and Macduff in "The Scottish Nation," we find a William Duff, Lord Braco of Kilbryde, succeeded to the estate of his cousin William Duff of Braco. During the 1745 Rebellion he supported the Government. His widow may have presented the Bible in question, as it says he acquired by purchase the right of presentation to about 15 parishes. See "The Scottish Nation."

READER.

594. LUDQUHARN.—For account of the Keiths, who were for long the proprietors of Ludquharn, Vol. I., p. 31, may be consulted. See also Pratt's "Buchan" (Revised Edition), pp. 65, 66, and 212, and Jervise's "Epitaphs and Inscriptions," I., p. 96.

W.

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